

**COMPOSITIONS OF CYCLOOXYGENASE-2 SELECTIVE
INHIBITORS AND SELECTIVE SEROTONIN REUPTAKE INHIBITORS FOR THE
TREATMENT OR PREVENTION OF A VASO-OCCLUSIVE EVENT**

Cross Reference to Related Application

[0001] This application claims priority from Provisional Application Serial No. 60/435,078 filed on December 20, 2002, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention provides compositions and methods for the treatment or prevention of a vaso-occlusive event. More particularly, the invention is directed toward a combination therapy for the treatment or prevention of a vaso-occlusive event comprising the administration to a subject of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor in combination with a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor.

Background of the Invention

[0003] The clotting of blood is part of the body's natural response to injury or trauma. Blood clot formation derives from a series of events called the coagulation cascade. Platelets play an early role in blood clot formation by forming a thrombus to temporarily repair damage to the injured vasculature. The later stages of hemostasis involve the formation of the enzyme thrombin. Thrombin converts circulating fibrinogen into fibrin, a mesh-like structure that forms the insoluble framework of the blood clot. As a part of hemostasis, clot formation is often a life-saving process in response to trauma and serves to arrest the flow of blood from severed vasculature.

[0004] The life-saving process of clot production in response to an injury, however, can become life threatening when it occurs at inappropriate places or at inappropriate times within the body. For example, a clot can obstruct a blood vessel and stop the supply of blood to an organ or other body part. In addition, the deposition of fibrin contributes to partial or complete stenosis of blood vessels, resulting in chronic diminution of blood flow. Equally life-threatening, are clots that become detached from their original sites and flow through the circulatory system causing blockages at remote sites. Such clots are known as embolisms. In fact, pathologies of blood coagulation, such as heart attacks, strokes, and the like, have been estimated to account for approximately fifty percent of all hospital deaths.

[0005] Treatment with a thrombolytic agent is one means employed to treat vaso-occlusions. All thrombolytic agents currently approved for use in the United States are plasminogen activators. Plasminogen activators are serine proteases that exert their pharmacological effect by catalyzing the conversion of plasminogen to plasmin. Plasmin, in turn, converts the insoluble fibrin of a blood clot into soluble products thereby causing clot dissolution. The benefits of using thrombolytic agents for the treatment of vaso-occlusions have been well documented in numerous clinical trials. A pooled analysis of data from 24 trials of intravenous thrombolytic therapy found a 22% reduction in the risk of death (Yusuf et al., (1985) Eur. Heart J. 6:556-85). In another study, an analysis of nine controlled, randomized trials, each randomizing more than 1,000 patients, pooled data from a total of 58,600 patients (Fibrinolytic Therapy Trialists' (1994) Lancet 343:311-22). In this study, after one month, thrombolytic therapy was associated with an 18% reduction in mortality, which translates into 18 lives saved for each 1,000 patients treated. This benefit, however, was achieved at the expense of 4 extra strokes per 1,000 patients treated. Benefit was seen regardless of age, gender, blood pressure, heart rate or prior history of acute myocardial infarction or diabetes.

[0006] Treatment with an anti-platelet activation agent is also a means employed to treat vaso-occlusions. The process of platelet-mediated thrombus formation involves adhesion, activation, and aggregation. Platelet adhesion to the injured vessel wall is the first step in thrombus formation. Platelet adhesion is triggered by damage to the vessel wall and local exposure of the subendothelial matrix. Within seconds of injury, platelets adhere to fibrinogen through the glycoprotein Ia/IIa (GPIa/IIa) receptor. Fibrinogen then links platelets together to form a platelet plug. Efforts directed toward preventing platelet-mediated thrombus formation are either aimed at preventing platelet activation or preventing their ability to aggregate once activated. Traditionally, a number of effective GP IIb/IIIa inhibitors, such as Abciximab (Reopro®) or Eptifibatide (Integrilin®), have been employed to impede the ability of the platelets to adhere to fibrinogen. Additionally, a number of compounds, such as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents, are known to limit platelet activation. Moreover, several studies illustrate the ability of serotonin to mediate platelet activation and have suggested treatment with serotonin modulators as a means to prevent platelet activation (Pollock BG, et al. (2000) J. Clin. Psychopharmacol 20(2):137-140; Serebruany VL (2001) Pharmacol Res 43(5):453-462). Selective serotonin reuptake

inhibitors, such as sertraline, were found to be particularly effective in preventing platelet activation (Pollock BG, et al. (2000) *J. Clin. Psychopharmacol* 20(2):137-140).

[0007] Several conditions caused by vaso-occlusions are also known to involve an inflammatory component. For example, a study published in the *N. Eng. J. Med.* (Ridker PM, et al. (1997) 336(14): 973-979) found that after several years of low-level inflammation, men are three times as likely to suffer heart attacks and twice as likely to have strokes. The study evaluated 1,086 men with levels of the C-reactive protein considered to be within normal range. Researchers found that those whose levels were in the upper 25% of the group were three times more likely to have suffered a heart attack more than six years later, and twice as likely to have a stroke than those whose levels were in the lowest 25%. Aspirin's benefits were particularly pronounced in the group with highest levels of the protein, suggesting that its anti-inflammatory effects were responsible for reduction in heart attacks and strokes. Moreover several studies have described the deleterious role of inflammation in stroke (e.g. Vila et al., (2000) *Stroke* 31:2325--2329; Napoli et al., (2002) *Stroke* 33:1763-1771; and Gorelick, PB. (2002) *Stroke* 33:862-875).

[0008] Moreover, restenosis associated with procedures used to treat vaso-occlusions is known to include an inflammatory component. Damage to the arterial wall during arterial procedures such as angioplasty and arterial grafting, leads to the release of proinflammatory compounds such as cytokines from macrophages.

[0009] Depression occurs in a significant proportion of patients with acute stroke and has been linked to poorer cognitive and physical recovery (Parikh et al., (1990) *Arch Neurol* 47:785-789). Furthermore, a link between stressful stimuli and worsened stroke outcome has been made both clinically (Andre-Petersson et al., (2001) *Stroke* 32:1712-1720) and in animal models of stroke (Sugo et al., (2002) *Stroke* 33:1660-1664). SSRIs effectively treat patients with depression and with stress and anxiety disorders. A recent study demonstrated that treatment of stroke patients with fluoxetine or nortriptyline increased the survival of both depressed and nondepressed patients (Jorge et al., (2003) *Am J Psychiatry* 160(10):1823-1829.). These findings suggest that an interaction between stress, depression and stroke may be effectively treated by agents that reduce both depressive symptoms as well as stroke mediated neuronal injury.

[0010] Because of the inflammatory component of restenosis, several anti-inflammatory agents have been used. For example, Rab et al. (*J. Am Coll. Cardiol.*, 18:1524-1528, 1991) administered glucocorticoids with or without colchicine to patients receiving stents and reported an increase in the incidence of coronary artery aneurysms. Valero et al.

(*J. Cardiovasc. Pharmacol.*, 31:513-519, 1998), introduced hydrocortisone-loaded microspheres into the arterial walls of rabbits during angioplasty. They reported that hydrocortisone-loaded microspheres were associated with a significant reduction in intimal hyperplasia. Strecker et al. (*Cardiovasc. Intervent. Radiol.*, 21:487-496, 1998), reported that dexamethasone-coated stents showed reduced neointimal hyperplasia in dogs when compared to non-coated stents. In contrast, Lee et al. (*Am. Heart J.*, 138:304, 1999), reported that single dose pretreatment with intravenous methylprednisolone before coronary stenting had no effect on the change in minimal lumen diameter at 6 months.

[0011] Non-steroidal anti inflammatories have also been used to decrease restenosis. Chaldakov (*Med. Hypotheses*, 37:74-75, 1992) proposed the use of the anti-inflammatories sulfasalazine, griseofulvin and colchicine to lessen coronary restenosis after angioplasty. Huang et al. (*Eur. J. Pharmacol.*, 221:381-384, 1992), reported that curcumin, an anti-inflammatory agent from *Curcuma longa*, reduced proliferation of vascular smooth muscle cells *in vitro*. Ishiwata et al. (*J. Am. Coll. Cardiol.* 35:1331-1337, 2000) reported that orally administered N-(3,4-dimethoxycinnamoyl) anthranilic acid (tranilast) resulted in a lower rate of restenosis in stent implanted pig arteries. In contrast, Grinstead et al. (*Coron. Artery Dis.* 4:277-281, 1993) found that oral administration of anipriloose hydrochloride, a synthetic carbohydrate with anti-inflammatory and antiproliferative properties did not prevent coronary intimal proliferation in the swine model of restenosis.

[0012] Generally speaking, traditional NSAIDs, such as aspirin, are active in reducing the prostaglandin-induced pain and swelling associated with the inflammation process. But the use of high doses of most common NSAIDs can produce severe side effects, including life-threatening ulcers that limit their therapeutic potential. One reason proposed for the severe side effects associated with traditional NSAIDs is their non-selective inhibition of both of the cyclooxygenase enzymes (COX), commonly known as COX-1 and COX-2. COX-1 is constitutively expressed and mediates a number of physiological functions, such as kidney and gastrointestinal function. COX-2, contrastingly, is induced in response to an inflammation mediated event. While conventional NSAIDs block both forms of the enzyme, a newer class of NSAID, selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitors, provide a viable target of inhibition that more effectively reduces inflammation and produces fewer and less drastic side effects.

[0013] Compounds that selectively inhibit cyclooxygenase-2 have been described in U.S. patents 5,380,738; 5,344,991; 5,393,790; 5,434,178; 5,474,995; 5,510,368 and WO documents WO96/06840, WO96/03388, WO96/03387,

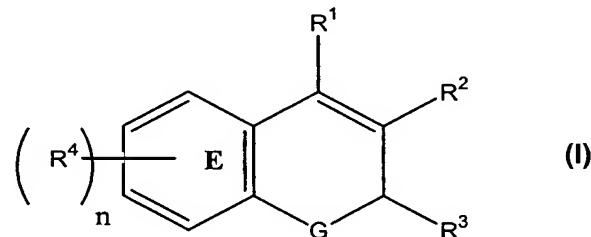
WO96/19469, WO96/25405, WO95/15316, WO94/15932, WO94/27980, WO95/00501, WO94/13635, WO94/20480, and WO94/26731. [Pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamides have been described as inhibitors of cyclooxygenase-2 and have shown promise in the treatment of inflammation, arthritis, and pain, with minimal side effects in pre-clinical and clinical trials. Their use for treating inflammation in vascular disease has been described in U.S. Patent No. 5,466,823. Their use for preventing cardiovascular-related diseases has been described in co-pending U.S. application 09/402,634.

[0014] Improved treatments for blood clot formation are currently being sought for the large number of individuals who are at risk for reocclusion following thrombolytic therapy and angioplasty, transient ischemic attacks and a variety of other vaso-occlusive disorders. The instant invention addresses this problem by providing a combination therapy comprised of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor with a COX-2 selective inhibitor.

Summary of the Invention

[0015] Among the several aspects of the invention is provided a method and a composition for the treatment or prevention of a vaso-occlusive event in a subject. The composition comprises a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof and a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof and the method comprises administering the composition to a subject.

[0016] In one embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is a member of the chromene class of compounds. For example, the chromene compound may be a compound of the formula:



wherein:

n is an integer which is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

G is O, S or NR^a;

R^a is alkyl;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of H and aryl;

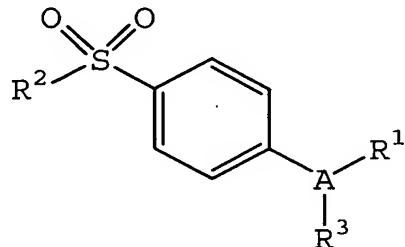
R^2 is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl and alkoxy carbonyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of haloalkyl, alkyl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl and aryl optionally substituted with one or more radicals selected from alkylthio, nitro and alkylsulfonyl; and

each R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of H, halo, alkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkyloxy, heteroaralkyloxy, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkylamino, arylamino, aralkylamino, heteroaryl amino, heteroarylalkylamino, nitro, amino, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, arylaminosulfonyl, heteroarylaminosulfonyl, aralkylaminosulfonyl, heteroaralkylaminosulfonyl, heterocyclosulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, hydroxyarylcarbonyl, nitroaryl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, aralkylcarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, and alkylcarbonyl;

or wherein R^4 together with the carbon atoms to which it is attached and the remainder of ring E forms a naphthyl radical; or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof.

[0017] In another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is a compound of the formula:



wherein:

A is selected from the group consisting of partially unsaturated or unsaturated heterocyclyl and partially unsaturated or unsaturated carbocyclic rings;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and aryl, wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkyl, haloalkyl, cyano, carboxyl, alkoxy carbonyl, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkoxy, amino, alkylamino, arylamino, nitro, alkoxyalkyl, alkylsulfinyl, halo, alkoxy and alkylthio;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl or amino; and

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of a radical selected from H, halo, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, oxo, cyano, carboxyl, cyanoalkyl, heterocyclyloxy, alkyloxy, alkylthio, alkylcarbonyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkenyl, aralkyl, heterocyclalkyl, acyl, alkylthioalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aralkylcarbonyl, aralkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, arylthioalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, aralkylthioalkyl, aralkoxyalkyl, alkoxyaralkoxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aminocarbonyl, aminocarbonylalkyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, N- arylaminocarbonyl, N-alkyl-N- arylaminocarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonylalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkylamino, N-aryl amino, N- aralkylamino, N-alkyl-N- aralkylamino, N-alkyl-N-aryl amino, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, N-aryl aminoalkyl, N- aralkylaminoalkyl, N-alkyl-N- aralkylaminoalkyl, N-alkyl-N- aralkylaminoalkyl, arloxy, aralkoxy, arylthio, aralkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, N-arylaminosulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, N-alkyl-N- arylaminosulfonyl.

[0018] In yet another embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of citalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, escitalopram oxalate, and sertraline.

[0019] In a further embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is administered during a continuous period beginning prior to the administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor.

[0020] In still a further embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is administered during a continuous period beginning on the same day as the beginning of the administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor and extending to a period after the end of the administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor.

[0021] Other aspects of the invention are described in more detail below.

Abbreviations and Definitions

[0022] The term "acyl" denotes a radical provided by the residue after removal of hydroxyl from an organic acid. Examples of such acyl radicals include alkanoyl and aroyl radicals. Examples of such lower alkanoyl radicals include formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, isobutyryl, valeryl, isovaleryl, pivaloyl, hexanoyl, trifluoroacetyl.

[0023] The term "alkenyl" embraces linear or branched radicals having at least one carbon-carbon double bond of two to about twenty carbon atoms or, preferably, two to

about twelve carbon atoms. More preferred alkyl radicals are "lower alkenyl" radicals having two to about six carbon atoms. Examples of alkenyl radicals include ethenyl, propenyl, allyl, propenyl, butenyl and 4-methylbutenyl.

[0024] The terms "alkenyl" and "lower alkenyl" also embrace radicals having "cis" and "trans" orientations, or alternatively, "E" and "Z" orientations. The term "cycloalkyl" embraces saturated carbocyclic radicals having three to twelve carbon atoms. More preferred cycloalkyl radicals are "lower cycloalkyl" radicals having three to about eight carbon atoms. Examples of such radicals include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

[0025] The terms "alkoxy" and "alkyloxy" embrace linear or branched oxy-containing radicals each having alkyl portions of one to about ten carbon atoms. More preferred alkoxy radicals are "lower alkoxy" radicals having one to six carbon atoms. Examples of such radicals include methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy and tert-butoxy.

[0026] The term "alkoxyalkyl" embraces alkyl radicals having one or more alkoxy radicals attached to the alkyl radical, that is, to form monoalkoxyalkyl and dialkoxyalkyl radicals. The "alkoxy" radicals may be further substituted with one or more halo atoms, such as fluoro, chloro or bromo, to provide haloalkoxy radicals. More preferred haloalkoxy radicals are "lower haloalkoxy" radicals having one to six carbon atoms and one or more halo radicals. Examples of such radicals include fluoromethoxy, chloromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, fluoroethoxy and fluoropropoxy.

[0027] The term "alkoxycarbonyl" means a radical containing an alkoxy radical, as defined above, attached via an oxygen atom to a carbonyl radical. More preferred are "lower alkoxycarbonyl" radicals with alkyl portions having 1 to 6 carbons. Examples of such lower alkoxycarbonyl (ester) radicals include substituted or unsubstituted methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, butoxycarbonyl and hexyloxycarbonyl.

[0028] Where used, either alone or within other terms such as "haloalkyl", "alkylsulfonyl", "alkoxyalkyl" and "hydroxyalkyl", the term "alkyl" embraces linear, cyclic or branched radicals having one to about twenty carbon atoms or, preferably, one to about twelve carbon atoms. More preferred alkyl radicals are "lower alkyl" radicals having one to about ten carbon atoms. Most preferred are lower alkyl radicals having one to about six carbon atoms. Examples of such radicals include methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, iso-amyl, hexyl and the like.

[0029] The term "alkylamino" denotes amino groups that have been substituted with one or two alkyl radicals. Preferred are "lower N-alkylamino" radicals having alkyl

portions having 1 to 6 carbon atoms. Suitable lower alkylamino may be mono or dialkylamino such as N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, N,N-diethylamino or the like.

[0030] The term "alkylaminoalkyl" embraces radicals having one or more alkyl radicals attached to an aminoalkyl radical.

[0031] The term "alkylaminocarbonyl" denotes an aminocarbonyl group that has been substituted with one or two alkyl radicals on the amino nitrogen atom. Preferred are "N-alkylaminocarbonyl" "N,N-dialkylaminocarbonyl" radicals. More preferred are "lower N-alkylaminocarbonyl" "lower N,N-dialkylaminocarbonyl" radicals with lower alkyl portions as defined above.

[0032] The terms "alkylcarbonyl", "arylcarbonyl" and "aralkylcarbonyl" include radicals having alkyl, aryl and aralkyl radicals, as defined above, attached to a carbonyl radical. Examples of such radicals include substituted or unsubstituted methylcarbonyl, ethylcarbonyl, phenylcarbonyl and benzylcarbonyl.

[0033] The term "alkylthio" embraces radicals containing a linear or branched alkyl radical, of one to about ten carbon atoms attached to a divalent sulfur atom. More preferred alkylthio radicals are "lower alkylthio" radicals having alkyl radicals of one to six carbon atoms. Examples of such lower alkylthio radicals are methylthio, ethylthio, propylthio, butylthio and hexylthio.

[0034] The term "alkylthioalkyl" embraces radicals containing an alkylthio radical attached through the divalent sulfur atom to an alkyl radical of one to about ten carbon atoms. More preferred alkylthioalkyl radicals are "lower alkylthioalkyl" radicals having alkyl radicals of one to six carbon atoms. Examples of such lower alkylthioalkyl radicals include methylthiomethyl.

[0035] The term "alkylsulfinyl" embraces radicals containing a linear or branched alkyl radical, of one to ten carbon atoms, attached to a divalent -S(=O)- radical. More preferred alkylsulfinyl radicals are "lower alkylsulfinyl" radicals having alkyl radicals of one to six carbon atoms. Examples of such lower alkylsulfinyl radicals include methylsulfinyl, ethylsulfinyl, butylsulfinyl and hexylsulfinyl.

[0036] The term "alkynyl" denotes linear or branched radicals having two to about twenty carbon atoms or, preferably, two to about twelve carbon atoms. More preferred alkynyl radicals are "lower alkynyl" radicals having two to about ten carbon atoms. Most preferred are lower alkynyl radicals having two to about six carbon atoms. Examples of such radicals include propargyl, butynyl, and the like.

[0037] The term "aminoalkyl" embraces alkyl radicals substituted with one or more amino radicals. More preferred are "lower aminoalkyl" radicals. Examples of such radicals include aminomethyl, aminoethyl, and the like.

[0038] The term "aminocarbonyl" denotes an amide group of the formula - C(=O)NH₂.

[0039] The term "aralkoxy" embraces aralkyl radicals attached through an oxygen atom to other radicals.

[0040] The term "aralkoxyalkyl" embraces aralkoxy radicals attached through an oxygen atom to an alkyl radical.

[0041] The term "aralkyl" embraces aryl-substituted alkyl radicals such as benzyl, diphenylmethyl, triphenylmethyl, phenylethyl, and diphenylethyl. The aryl in said aralkyl may be additionally substituted with halo, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl and haloalkoxy. The terms benzyl and phenylmethyl are interchangeable.

[0042] The term "aralkylamino" embraces aralkyl radicals attached through an amino nitrogen atom to other radicals. The terms "N-arylaminoalkyl" and "N-aryl-N-alkylaminoalkyl" denote amino groups which have been substituted with one aryl radical or one aryl and one alkyl radical, respectively, and having the amino group attached to an alkyl radical. Examples of such radicals include N-phenylaminomethyl and N-phenyl-N-methylaminomethyl.

[0043] The term "aralkylthio" embraces aralkyl radicals attached to a sulfur atom.

[0044] The term "aralkylthioalkyl" embraces aralkylthio radicals attached through a sulfur atom to an alkyl radical.

[0045] The term "aryl" embraces aryl radicals with a carbonyl radical as defined above. Examples of aryl include benzoyl, naphthoyl, and the like and the aryl in said aryl may be additionally substituted.

[0046] The term "aryl", alone or in combination, means a carbocyclic aromatic system containing one, two or three rings wherein such rings may be attached together in a pendent manner or may be fused. The term "aryl" embraces aromatic radicals such as phenyl, naphthyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, indane and biphenyl. Aryl moieties may also be substituted at a substitutable position with one or more substituents selected independently from alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkoxy carbonylalkyl, aminocarbonylalkyl, alkoxy, aralkoxy, hydroxyl, amino, halo, nitro, alkylamino, acyl, cyano, carboxy, aminocarbonyl, alkoxy carbonyl and aralkoxy carbonyl.

[0047] The term "arylamino" denotes amino groups, which have been substituted with one or two aryl radicals, such as N-phenylamino. The "arylamino" radicals may be further substituted on the aryl ring portion of the radical.

[0048] The term "aryloxyalkyl" embraces radicals having an aryl radical attached to an alkyl radical through a divalent oxygen atom.

[0049] The term "arylthioalkyl" embraces radicals having an aryl radical attached to an alkyl radical through a divalent sulfur atom.

[0050] The term "carbonyl", whether used alone or with other terms, such as "alkoxycarbonyl", denotes -(C=O)-.

[0051] The terms "carboxy" or "carboxyl", whether used alone or with other terms, such as "carboxyalkyl", denotes -CO₂H.

[0052] The term "carboxyalkyl" embraces alkyl radicals substituted with a carboxy radical. More preferred are "lower carboxyalkyl" which embrace lower alkyl radicals as defined above, and may be additionally substituted on the alkyl radical with halo. Examples of such lower carboxyalkyl radicals include carboxymethyl, carboxyethyl and carboxypropyl.

[0053] The term "cycloalkenyl" embraces partially unsaturated carbocyclic radicals having three to twelve carbon atoms. More preferred cycloalkenyl radicals are "lower cycloalkenyl" radicals having four to about eight carbon atoms. Examples of such radicals include cyclobut enyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclopentadienyl, and cyclohexenyl.

[0054] The term "cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor" denotes a compound able to inhibit cyclooxygenase-2 without significant inhibition of cyclooxygenase-1. Typically, it includes compounds that have a cyclooxygenase-2 IC₅₀ of less than about 0.2 micro molar, and also have a selectivity ratio of cyclooxygenase-2 inhibition over cyclooxygenase-1 inhibition of at least 50, and more typically, of at least 100. Even more typically, the compounds have a cyclooxygenase-1 IC₅₀ of greater than about 1 micro molar, and more preferably of greater than 10 micro molar. Inhibitors of the cyclooxygenase pathway in the metabolism of arachidonic acid used in the present method may inhibit enzyme activity through a variety of mechanisms. By the way of example, and without limitation, the inhibitors used in the methods described herein may block the enzyme activity directly by acting as a substrate for the enzyme.

[0055] The term "halo" means halogens such as fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.

[0056] The term "haloalkyl" embraces radicals wherein any one or more of the alkyl carbon atoms is substituted with halo as defined above. Specifically embraced are monohaloalkyl, dihaloalkyl and polyhaloalkyl radicals. A monohaloalkyl radical, for one example, may have either an iodo, bromo, chloro or fluoro atom within the radical. Dihalo and polyhaloalkyl radicals may have two or more of the same halo atoms or a combination of different halo radicals. "Lower haloalkyl" embraces radicals having 1-6 carbon atoms. Examples of haloalkyl radicals include fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl and dichloropropyl.

[0057] The term "heteroaryl" embraces unsaturated heterocyclyl radicals. Examples of unsaturated heterocyclyl radicals, also termed "heteroaryl" radicals include unsaturated 3 to 6 membered heteromonocyclic group containing 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, for example, pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, triazolyl (e.g., 4H-1,2,4-triazolyl, 1H-1,2,3-triazolyl, 2H-1,2,3-triazolyl, etc.) tetrazolyl (e.g. 1H-tetrazolyl, 2H-tetrazolyl, etc.), etc.; unsaturated condensed heterocyclyl group containing 1 to 5 nitrogen atoms, for example, indolyl, isoindolyl, indolizinyl, benzimidazolyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, indazolyl, benzotriazolyl, tetrazolopyridazinyl (e.g., tetrazolo[1,5-b]pyridazinyl, etc.), etc.; unsaturated 3 to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing an oxygen atom, for example, pyranyl, furyl, etc.; unsaturated 3 to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing a sulfur atom, for example, thienyl, etc.; unsaturated 3- to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing 1 to 2 oxygen atoms and 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms, for example, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, etc.) etc.; unsaturated condensed heterocyclyl group containing 1 to 2 oxygen atoms and 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms (e.g. benzoxazolyl, benzoxadiazolyl, etc.); unsaturated 3 to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing 1 to 2 sulfur atoms and 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms, for example, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl (e.g., 1,2,4-thiadiazolyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,5-thiadiazolyl, etc.) etc.; unsaturated condensed heterocyclyl group containing 1 to 2 sulfur atoms and 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms (e.g., benzothiazolyl, benzothiadiazolyl, etc.) and the like. The term also embraces radicals where heterocyclyl radicals are fused with aryl radicals. Examples of such fused bicyclic radicals include benzofuran, benzothiophene, and the like. Said "heterocyclyl group" may have 1 to 3 substituents such as alkyl, hydroxyl, halo, alkoxy, oxo, amino and alkylamino.

[0058] The term "heterocyclyl" embraces saturated, partially unsaturated and unsaturated heteroatom-containing ring-shaped radicals, where the heteroatoms may be selected from nitrogen, sulfur and oxygen. Examples of saturated heterocyclyl radicals include saturated 3 to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms (e.g. pyrrolidinyl, imidazolidinyl, piperidino, piperazinyl, etc.); saturated 3 to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing 1 to 2 oxygen atoms and 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms (e.g. morpholinyl, etc.); saturated 3 to 6-membered heteromonocyclic group containing 1 to 2 sulfur atoms and 1 to 3 nitrogen atoms (e.g., thiazolidinyl, etc.). Examples of partially unsaturated heterocyclyl radicals include dihydrothiophene, dihydropyran, dihydrofuran and dihydrothiazole.

[0059] The term "heterocyclylalkyl" embraces saturated and partially unsaturated heterocyclyl-substituted alkyl radicals, such as pyrrolidinylmethyl, and heteroaryl-substituted alkyl radicals, such as pyridylmethyl, quinolylmethyl, thienylmethyl, furylethyl, and quinolylethyl. The heteroaryl in said heteroaralkyl may be additionally substituted with halo, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl and haloalkoxy.

[0060] The term "hydrido" denotes a single hydrogen atom (H). This hydrido radical may be attached, for example, to an oxygen atom to form a hydroxyl radical or two hydrido radicals may be attached to a carbon atom to form a methylene (-CH₂-) radical.

[0061] The term "hydroxyalkyl" embraces linear or branched alkyl radicals having one to about ten carbon atoms any one of which may be substituted with one or more hydroxyl radicals. More preferred hydroxyalkyl radicals are "lower hydroxyalkyl" radicals having one to six carbon atoms and one or more hydroxyl radicals. Examples of such radicals include hydroxymethyl, hydroxyethyl, hydroxypropyl, hydroxybutyl and hydroxyhexyl.

[0062] The term "inhibition" as used herein means a decrease the severity of a vaso-occlusive event as compared to that which would occur in the absence of the administration of the composition of the present invention.

[0063] The term "pharmaceutically acceptable" is used adjectively herein to mean that the modified noun is appropriate for use in a pharmaceutical product; that is the "pharmaceutically acceptable" material is relatively safe and/or non-toxic, though not necessarily providing a separable therapeutic benefit by itself. Pharmaceutically acceptable cations include metallic ions and organic ions. More preferred metallic ions include, but are not limited to appropriate alkali metal salts, alkaline earth metal salts and other physiologically acceptable metal ions. Exemplary ions include aluminum, calcium, lithium,

magnesium, potassium, sodium and zinc in their usual valences. Preferred organic ions include protonated tertiary amines and quaternary ammonium cations, including in part, trimethylamine, diethylamine, N,N'-dibenzyl ethylenediamine, chlorprocaine, choline, diethanolamine, ethylenediamine, meglumine (N-methylglucamine) and procaine.

Exemplary pharmaceutically acceptable acids include without limitation hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, phosphoric acid, sulfuric acid, methanesulfonic acid, acetic acid, formic acid, tartaric acid, maleic acid, malic acid, citric acid, isocitric acid, succinic acid, lactic acid, gluconic acid, glucuronic acid, pyruvic acid, oxalacetic acid, fumaric acid, propionic acid, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, benzoic acid, and the like.

[0064] The term "prevention" includes either preventing the onset of a clinically evident vaso-occlusive event altogether or preventing the onset of a preclinically evident stage of a vaso-occlusive event in a subject. This definition includes prophylactic treatment.

[0065] The term "prodrug" refers to a chemical compound that can be converted into a therapeutic compound by metabolic or simple chemical processes within the body of the subject. For example, a class of prodrugs of COX-2 inhibitors is described in US Patent No. 5,932,598, herein incorporated by reference.

[0066] The term "subject" for purposes of treatment or prevention includes a human or animal subject who is susceptible to a vaso-occlusive event. The subject can be a domestic livestock species, a laboratory animal species, a zoo animal or a companion animal. In one embodiment, the subject is a mammal. In another embodiment, the mammal is a human being.

[0067] The term "sulfonyl", whether used alone or linked to other terms such as alkylsulfonyl, denotes respectively divalent radicals -SO_2^- . "Alkylsulfonyl" embraces alkyl radicals attached to a sulfonyl radical, where alkyl is defined as above. More preferred alkylsulfonyl radicals are "lower alkylsulfonyl" radicals having one to six carbon atoms. Examples of such lower alkylsulfonyl radicals include methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl and propylsulfonyl. The "alkylsulfonyl" radicals may be further substituted with one or more halo atoms, such as fluoro, chloro or bromo, to provide haloalkylsulfonyl radicals. The terms "sulfamyl", "aminosulfonyl" and "sulfonamidyl" denote $\text{NH}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}^-$.

[0068] The phrase "therapeutically-effective" is intended to qualify the amount of each agent (i.e., cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor) that will achieve the goal of improvement in disorder severity and the frequency of incidence over no treatment or treatment of each agent by itself.

[0069] The term “thrombotic event” or “thromboembolic event” includes, but is not limited to arterial thrombosis, including stent and graft thrombosis, cardiac thrombosis, coronary thrombosis, heart valve thrombosis, pulmonary thrombosis and venous thrombosis. Cardiac thrombosis is thrombosis in the heart. Pulmonary thrombosis is thrombosis in the lung. Arterial thrombosis is thrombosis in an artery such as a carotid artery thrombosis. Coronary thrombosis is the development of an obstructive thrombus in a coronary artery, often causing sudden death or a myocardial infarction. Venous thrombosis is thrombosis in a vein. Heart valve thrombosis is a thrombosis on a heart valve. Stent thrombosis is thrombosis resulting from and/or located in the vicinity of a vascular stent. Graft thrombosis is thrombosis resulting from and/or located in the vicinity of an implanted graft, particularly a vascular graft. A thrombotic event as used herein is meant to embrace both a local thrombotic event and a distal thrombotic event occurring anywhere within the body (e.g., a thromboembolic event such as for example an embolic stroke).

[0070] The term “vaso-occlusive event” includes a partial occlusion (including a narrowing) or complete occlusion of a blood vessel, a stent or a vascular graft. A vaso-occlusive event intends to embrace thrombotic or thromboembolic events, and the vascular occlusion disorders or conditions to which they give rise.

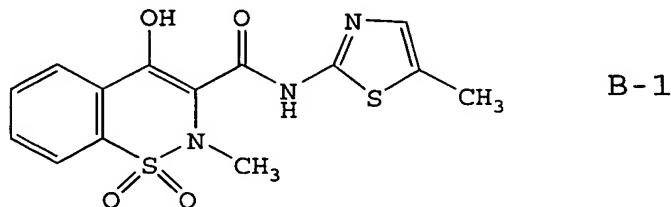
Description of the Preferred Embodiments

[0071] The present invention provides a combination therapy comprising the administration to a subject of a therapeutically effective amount of a COX-2 selective inhibitor in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor. The combination therapy is used to treat or prevent a vaso-occlusive event, to inhibit inflammation in the vessels, and to treat or prevent disorders associated with vaso-occlusions. When administered as part of a combination therapy, the COX-2 selective inhibitor together with the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor provide enhanced treatment options as compared to administration of either the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor or the COX-2 selective inhibitor alone.

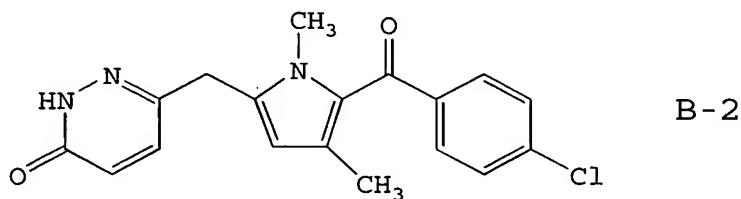
Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitors

[0072] A number of suitable cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof may be employed in the composition of the current invention. In one embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor can be, for example, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor meloxicam, Formula

B-1 (CAS registry number 71125-38-7) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug of a compound having Formula B-1.

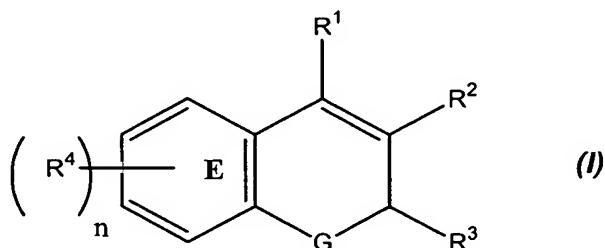


[0073] In yet another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor, 6-[[5-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-1,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]methyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone, Formula B-2 (CAS registry number 179382-91-3) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug of a compound having Formula B-2.



[0074] In still another embodiment the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is a chromene compound that is a substituted benzopyran or a substituted benzopyran analog, and even more typically, selected from the group consisting of substituted benzothiopyrans, dihydroquinolines, dihydronaphthalenes or a compound having Formula *I* shown below and possessing, by way of example and not limitation, the structures disclosed in Table 1x. Furthermore, benzopyran cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors useful in the practice of the present methods are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,034,256 and 6,077,850 herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

[0075] In another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is a chromene compound represented by Formula *I* or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof:



wherein:

n is an integer which is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

G is O, S or NR^a;

R^a is alkyl;

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H and aryl;

R² is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl and alkoxycarbonyl;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of haloalkyl, alkyl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl and aryl optionally substituted with one or more radicals selected from alkylthio, nitro and alkylsulfonyl; and

each R⁴ is independently selected from the group consisting of H, halo, alkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkyloxy, heteroaralkyloxy, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkylamino, arylamino, aralkylamino, heteroaryl amino, heteroarylalkylamino, nitro, amino, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, arylaminosulfonyl, heteroarylaminosulfonyl, aralkylaminosulfonyl, heteroaralkylaminosulfonyl, heterocyclosulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, hydroxyarylcarbonyl, nitroaryl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, aralkylcarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, and alkylcarbonyl;

or R⁴ together with the carbon atoms to which it is attached and the remainder of ring E forms a naphthyl radical.

[0076] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor may also be a compound of Formula (I) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

n is an integer which is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

G is O, S or NR^a;

R¹ is H;

R^a is alkyl;

R² is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, alkylsulfonylaminocarbonyl and alkoxycarbonyl;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of haloalkyl, alkyl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl and aryl, wherein haloalkyl, alkyl, aralkyl, cycloalkyl, and aryl each is independently optionally substituted with one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of alkylthio, nitro and alkylsulfonyl; and

each R^4 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrido, halo, alkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkyloxy, heteroaralkyloxy, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkylamino, arylamino, aralkylamino, heteroaryl amino, heteroarylalkylamino, nitro, amino, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, arylaminosulfonyl, heteroarylaminosulfonyl, aralkylaminosulfonyl, heteroaralkylaminosulfonyl, heterocyclosulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, aralkylcarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, and alkylcarbonyl; or wherein R^4 together with ring E forms a naphthyl radical.

[0100] In a further embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor may also be a compound of Formula (I), or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

n is an integer which is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

G is oxygen or sulfur;

R^1 is H;

R^2 is carboxyl, lower alkyl, lower aralkyl or lower alkoxy carbonyl;

R^3 is lower haloalkyl, lower cycloalkyl or phenyl; and

each R^4 is H, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower alkylamino, nitro, amino, aminosulfonyl, lower alkylaminosulfonyl, 5-membered heteroarylalkylaminosulfonyl, 6-membered heteroarylalkylaminosulfonyl, lower aralkylaminosulfonyl, 5-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclosulfonyl, 6-membered-nitrogen containing heterocyclosulfonyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, optionally substituted phenyl, lower aralkylcarbonyl, or lower alkylcarbonyl; or

R^4 together with the carbon atoms to which it is attached and the remainder of ring E forms a naphthyl radical.

[0101] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor may also be a compound of Formula (I) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

R^2 is carboxyl;

R^3 is lower haloalkyl; and

each R^4 is H, halo, lower alkyl, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower alkylamino, amino, aminosulfonyl, lower alkylaminosulfonyl, 5-membered heteroarylalkylaminosulfonyl, 6-membered heteroarylalkylaminosulfonyl, lower aralkylaminosulfonyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, 6-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclosulfonyl, optionally substituted phenyl, lower

aralkylcarbonyl, or lower alkylcarbonyl; or wherein R⁴ together with ring E forms a naphthyl radical.

[0102] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor may also be a compound of Formula (I) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

n is an integer which is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R³ is fluoromethyl, chloromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, difluoromethyl, or trifluoromethyl; and

each R⁴ is H, chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, *tert*-butyl, butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, hexyl, methoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, *tert*butyloxy, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, N,N-dimethylamino, N,N-diethylamino, N-phenylmethylaminosulfonyl, N-phenylethylaminosulfonyl, N-(2-furylmethyl)aminosulfonyl, nitro, N,N-dimethylaminosulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, N-methylaminosulfonyl, N-ethylsulfonyl, 2,2-dimethylethylaminosulfonyl, N,N-dimethylaminosulfonyl, N-(2-methylpropyl)aminosulfonyl, N-morpholinosulfonyl, methylsulfonyl, benzylcarbonyl, 2,2-dimethylpropylcarbonyl, phenylacetyl or phenyl; or wherein R⁴ together with the carbon atoms to which it is attached and the remainder of ring E forms a naphthyl radical.

[0103] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor may also be a compound of Formula (I) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

n is an integer which is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R³ is trifluoromethyl or pentafluoroethyl; and

each R⁴ is independently H, chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, *tert*-butyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, N-phenylmethylaminosulfonyl, N-phenylethylaminosulfonyl, N-(2-furylmethyl)aminosulfonyl, N,N-dimethylaminosulfonyl, N-methylaminosulfonyl, N-(2,2-dimethylethyl)aminosulfonyl, dimethylaminosulfonyl, 2-methylpropylaminosulfonyl, N-morpholinosulfonyl, methylsulfonyl, benzylcarbonyl, or phenyl; or wherein R⁴ together with the carbon atoms to which it is attached and the remainder of ring E forms a naphthyl radical.

[0104] In yet another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor used in connection with the method(s) of the present invention can also be a compound having the structure of Formula (I) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

$n = 4$;

G is O or S;

R^1 is H;

R^2 is CO_2H ;

R^3 is lower haloalkyl;

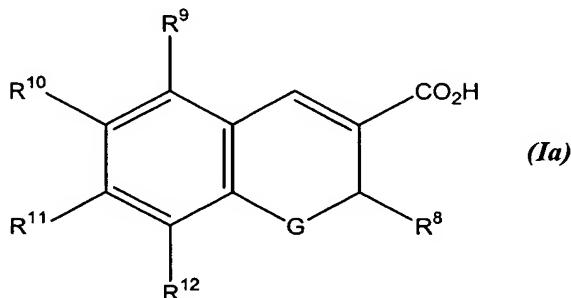
a first R^4 corresponding to R^9 is hydrido or halo;

a second R^4 corresponding to R^{10} is H, halo, lower alkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower alkoxy, lower aralkylcarbonyl, lower dialkylaminosulfonyl, lower alkylaminosulfonyl, lower aralkylaminosulfonyl, lower heteroaralkylaminosulfonyl, 5-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclosulfonyl, or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclosulfonyl;

a third R^4 corresponding to R^{11} is H, lower alkyl, halo, lower alkoxy, or aryl; and

a fourth R^4 corresponding to R^{12} is H, halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, and aryl;

wherein Formula (I) is represented by Formula (Ia):



[0105] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor used in connection with the method(s) of the present invention can also be a compound of having the structure of Formula (Ia) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

R^8 is trifluoromethyl or pentafluoroethyl;

R^9 is H, chloro, or fluoro;

R^{10} is H, chloro, bromo, fluoro, iodo, methyl, tert-butyl, trifluoromethoxy, methoxy, benzylcarbonyl, dimethylaminosulfonyl, isopropylaminosulfonyl, methylaminosulfonyl, benzylaminosulfonyl, phenylethylaminosulfonyl, methylpropylaminosulfonyl, methylsulfonyl, or morpholinosulfonyl;

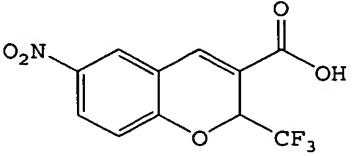
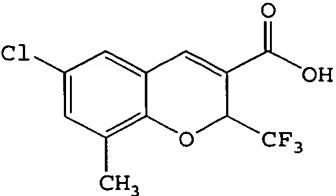
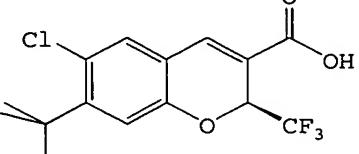
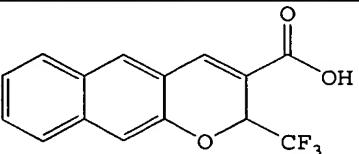
R^{11} is H, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, chloro, methoxy, diethylamino, or phenyl; and

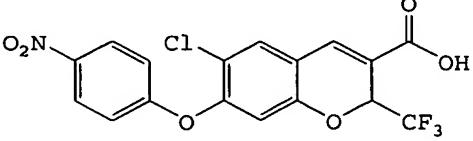
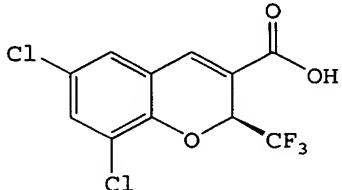
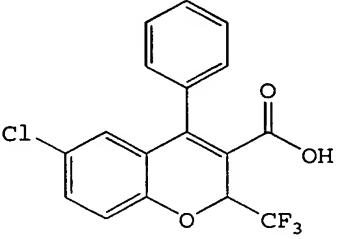
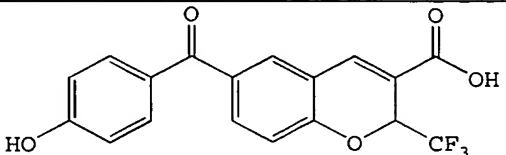
R^{12} is H, chloro, bromo, fluoro, methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, methoxy, or phenyl.

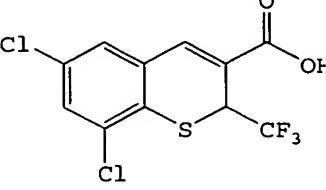
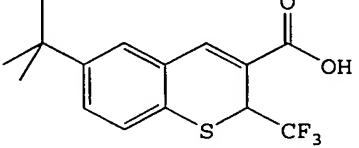
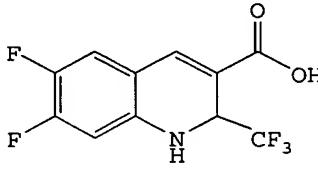
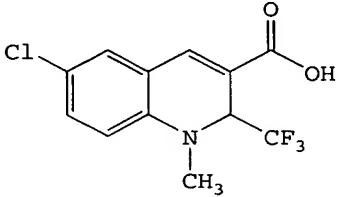
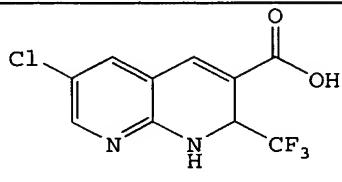
[0106] Examples of exemplary chromene cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors are depicted in Table 1x below.

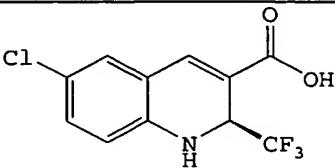
Table 1x

Examples of Chromene Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitors as Embodiments

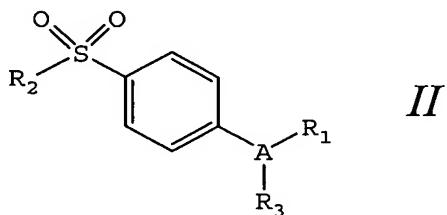
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-3	 <p>6-Nitro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-4	 <p>6-Chloro-8-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-5	 <p>((S)-6-Chloro-7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-6	 <p>2-Trifluoromethyl-2H-naphtho[2,3-b]pyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-7	 <p>6-Chloro-7-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-8	 <p>((S)-6,8-Dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-9	 <p>6-Chloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-4-phenyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-10	 <p>6-(4-Hydroxybenzoyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-11	 <p>2-(Trifluoromethyl)-6-[(trifluoromethyl)thio]-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-12	 <p>6,8-Dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-13	 <p>6-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-14	 <p>6,7-Difluoro-1,2-dihydro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-3-quinolinecarboxylic acid</p>
B-15	 <p>6-Chloro-1,2-dihydro-1-methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)-3-quinolinecarboxylic acid</p>
B-16	 <p>6-Chloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2-dihydro-[1,8]naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-17	 <p data-bbox="584 481 1183 544"><i>((S)-6-Chloro-1,2-dihydro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-3-quinolinecarboxylic acid</i></p>

[0107] In a further embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is selected from the class of tricyclic cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors represented by the general structure of Formula *I*: or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:



A is selected from the group consisting of partially unsaturated or unsaturated heterocyclyl and partially unsaturated or unsaturated carbocyclic rings;

*R*¹ is selected from the group consisting of heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl and aryl, wherein *R*¹ is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkyl, haloalkyl, cyano, carboxyl, alkoxy carbonyl, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkoxy, amino, alkylamino, arylamino, nitro, alkoxyalkyl, alkylsulfinyl, halo, alkoxy and alkylthio;

*R*² is selected from the group consisting of methyl or amino; and

*R*³ is selected from the group consisting of a radical selected from H, halo, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, oxo, cyano, carboxyl, cyanoalkyl, heterocyclyloxy, alkyloxy, alkylthio, alkylcarbonyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkenyl, aralkyl, heterocyclalkyl, acyl, alkylthioalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy carbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aralkylcarbonyl, aralkenyl, alkoxyalkyl, arylthioalkyl, aryloxyalkyl, aralkylthioalkyl, aralkoxyalkyl, alkoxyaralkoxyalkyl, alkoxy carbonylalkyl, aminocarbonyl, aminocarbonylalkyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, N- arylaminocarbonyl, N-

alkyl-N-arylaminocarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonylalkyl, carboxyalkyl, alkylamino, N-arylmino, N-aralkylamino, N-alkyl-N-aralkylamino, N-alkyl-N-arylaminoo, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, N-arylaminooalkyl, N-aralkylaminooalkyl, N-alkyl-N-aralkylaminooalkyl, N-alkyl-N-arylaminooalkyl, aryloxy, aralkoxy, arylthio, aralkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminosulfonyl, N-arylaminosulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, N-alkyl-N-arylaminosulfonyl.

[0108] In another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor represented by the above Formula *II* is selected from the group of compounds illustrated in Table 2x, consisting of celecoxib (B-18; U.S. Patent No. 5,466,823; CAS No. 169590-42-5), valdecoxib (B-19; U.S. Patent No. 5,633,272; CAS No. 181695-72-7), deracoxib (B-20; U.S. Patent No. 5,521,207; CAS No. 169590-41-4), rofecoxib (B-21; CAS No. 162011-90-7), etoricoxib (MK-663; B-22; PCT publication WO 98/03484), tilmacoxib (JTE-522; B-23; CAS No. 180200-68-4).

Table 2x

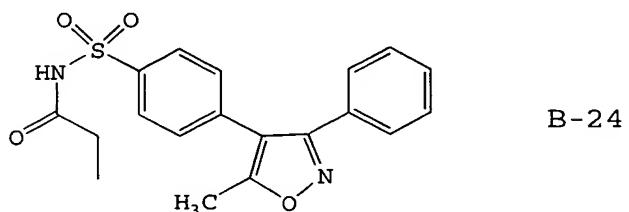
Examples of Tricyclic Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitors as Embodiments

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-18	
B-19	
B-20	

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-21	
B-22	
B-23	

[0109] In still another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of celecoxib, rofecoxib and etoricoxib.

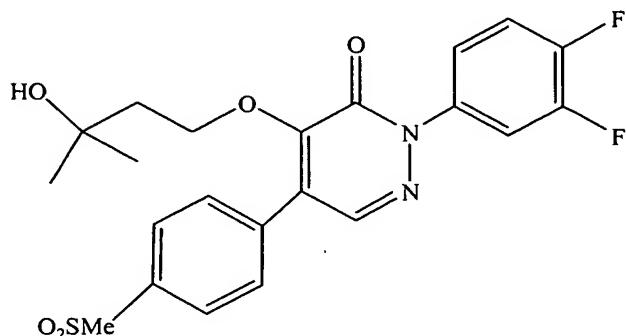
[0110] In yet another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is parecoxib (B-24, U.S. Patent No. 5,932,598, CAS No. 198470-84-7), which is a therapeutically effective prodrug of the tricyclic cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor valdecoxib, B-19, may be advantageously employed as a source of a cyclooxygenase inhibitor (US 5,932,598, herein incorporated by reference).



[0111] One form of parecoxib is sodium parecoxib.

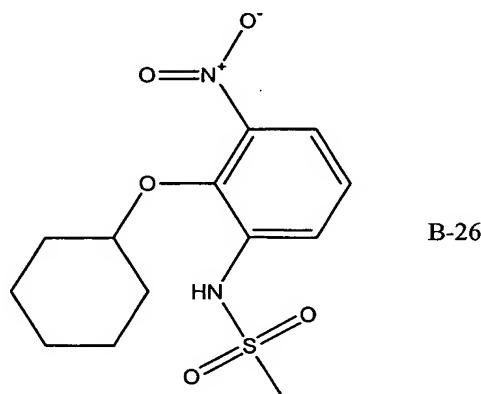
[0112] In another embodiment of the invention, the compound having the formula B-25 or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug of a compound having formula B-25 that has been previously described in International Publication number

WO 00/24719 (which is herein incorporated by reference) is another tricyclic cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor that may be advantageously employed.



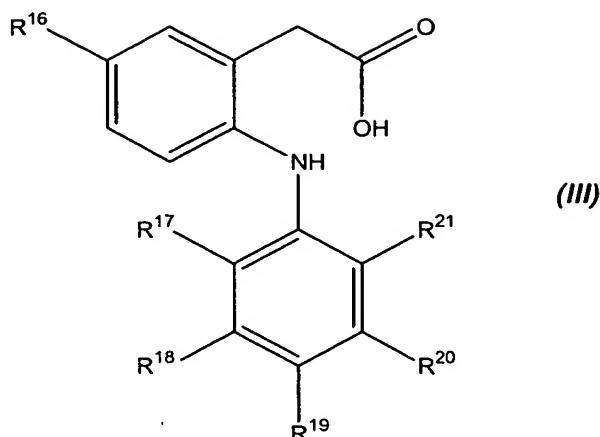
B-25

[0113] Another cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor that is useful in connection with the method(s) of the present invention is N-(2-cyclohexyloxynitrophenyl)-methane sulfonamide (NS-398) having a structure shown below as B-26, or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug of a compound having formula B-26.



B-26

[0114] In yet a further embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor used in connection with the method(s) of the present invention can be selected from the class of phenylacetic acid derivative cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors represented by the general structure of Formula *(III)* or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof:



wherein:

R^{16} is methyl or ethyl;

R^{17} is chloro or fluoro;

R^{18} is hydrogen or fluoro;

R^{19} is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy or hydroxy;

R^{20} is hydrogen or fluoro; and

R^{21} is chloro, fluoro, trifluoromethyl or methyl, provided that R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} and R^{20} are not all fluoro when R^{16} is ethyl and R^{19} is H.

[0115] Another phenylacetic acid derivative cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor used in connection with the method(s) of the present invention is a compound that has the designation of COX 189 (lumiracoxib; B-211) and that has the structure shown in Formula (III) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof wherein:

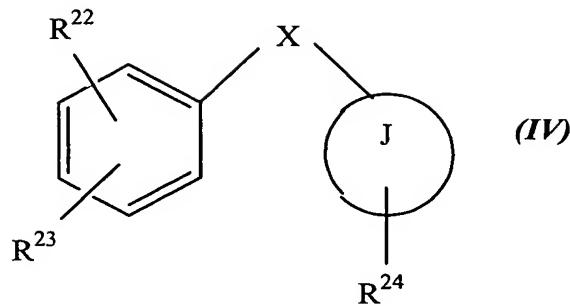
R^{16} is ethyl;

R^{17} and R^{19} are chloro;

R^{18} and R^{20} are hydrogen; and

and R^{21} is methyl.

[0116] In yet another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is represented by Formula (IV) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof:



wherein:

X is O or S;

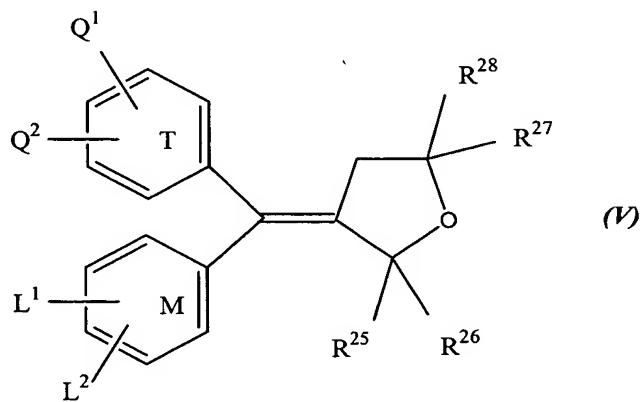
J is a carbocycle or a heterocycle;

R²² is NHSO₂CH₃ or F;

R²³ is H, NO₂, or F; and

R²⁴ is H, NHSO₂CH₃, or (SO₂CH₃)₂C₆H₄.

[0117] According to another embodiment, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors used in the present method(s) have the structural Formula (V) or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof:



wherein:

T and M independently are phenyl, naphthyl, a radical derived from a heterocycle comprising 5 to 6 members and possessing from 1 to 4 heteroatoms, or a radical derived from a saturated hydrocarbon ring having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms;

Q¹, Q², L¹ or L² are independently hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, or lower methoxy having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms; and

at least one of Q¹, Q², L¹ or L² is in the para position and is -S(O)_n-R, wherein n is 0, 1, or 2 and R is a lower alkyl radical having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a lower haloalkyl radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or an -SO₂NH₂; or,

Q¹ and Q² are methylenedioxy; or

L¹ and L² are methylenedioxy; and

R²⁵, R²⁶, R²⁷, and R²⁸ are independently hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, lower haloalkyl radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or an aromatic radical selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, furyl and pyridyl; or,

R²⁵ and R²⁶ are O; or,

R²⁷ and R²⁸ are O; or,

R²⁵, R²⁶, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a saturated hydrocarbon ring having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms; or,

R²⁷, R²⁸, together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a saturated hydrocarbon ring having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms.

[0118] In another embodiment, the compounds N-(2-cyclohexyloxynitrophenyl)methane sulfonamide, and (E)-4-[(4-methylphenyl)(tetrahydro-2-oxo-3-furanylidene) methyl]benzenesulfonamide or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof having the structure of Formula (V) are employed as cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors.

[0119] In a further embodiment, compounds that are useful for the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof used in connection with the method(s) of the present invention, the structures for which are set forth in Table 3x below, include, but are not limited to:

6-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-27);

6-chloro-7-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-28);

8-(1-methylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-29);

6-chloro-8-(1-methylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-30);

2-trifluoromethyl-3H-naphtho[2,1-b]pyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-31);

7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-32);

6-bromo-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-33);

8-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-34);

6-trifluoromethoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-35);

5,7-dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-36);

8-phenyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-37);

7,8-dimethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-38);

6,8-bis(dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-39);
7-(1-methylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-40);
7-phenyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-41);
6-chloro-7-ethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-42);
6-chloro-8-ethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-43);
6-chloro-7-phenyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-44);
6,7-dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-45);
6,8-dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-46);
6-chloro-8-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-47);
8-chloro-6-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-48);
8-chloro-6-methoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-49);
6-bromo-8-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-50);
8-bromo-6-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-51);
8-bromo-6-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-52);
8-bromo-5-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-53);
6-chloro-8-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-54);
6-bromo-8-methoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-55);
6-[(phenylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-56);
6-[(dimethylamino)sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-57);
6-[(methylamino)sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-58);
6-[(4-morpholino)sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-59);
6-[(1,1-dimethylethyl)aminosulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-60);
6-[(2-methylpropyl)aminosulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-61);
6-methylsulfonyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-62);
8-chloro-6-[(phenylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-63);
6-phenylacetyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-64);
6,8-dibromo-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-65);

8-chloro-5,6-dimethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-66);
6,8-dichloro-(S)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-67);
6-benzylsulfonyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-68);
6-[[N-(2-furylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-69);
6-[[N-(2-phenylethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-70);
6-iodo-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-71);
7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-pentafluoroethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-72);
6-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-73);
3-[(3-Chloro-phenyl)-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-methylene]-dihydro-furan-2-one or BMS-347070 (B-74);
8-acetyl-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl-imidazo(1,2-a)pyridine (B-75);
5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl-3-phenyl-2-(5H)-furanone (B-76);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazole (B-77);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazole (B-78);
4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-79);
4-(3,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-80);
4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-81);
4-(3,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-82);
4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(4-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-83);
4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-84);
4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(5-chloro-2-thienyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-85);
4-(4-chloro-3,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (B-86);
4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-87);
4-[5-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-88);

4-[5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-89);
4-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-90);
4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(difluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-91);
4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-92);
4-[4-chloro-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-93);
4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-94);
4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-95);
4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-96);
4-[3-cyano-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-97);
4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-98);
4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-99);
4-[4-chloro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-100);
4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-101);
4-[5-(4-(N,N-dimethylamino)phenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-102);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene (B-103);
4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-104);
6-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[3.4]oct-6-ene (B-105);
5-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene (B-106);
4-[6-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-107);
5-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene (B-108);

5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene (B-109);
4-[6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-110);
2-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)thiazole (B-111);
2-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)thiazole (B-112);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-methylthiazole (B-113);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-trifluoromethylthiazole (B-114);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-(2-thienyl)thiazole (B-115);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-benzylaminothiazole (B-116);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-(1-propylamino)thiazole (B-117);
2-[(3,5-dichlorophenoxy)methyl]-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thiazole (B-118);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-trifluoromethylthiazole (B-119);
1-methylsulfonyl-4-[1,1-dimethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenta-2,4-dien-3-yl]benzene (B-120);
4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,1-dimethylcyclopenta-2,4-dien-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-121);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene (B-122);
4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-123);
6-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methoxy-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-pyridine-3-carbonitrile (B-124);
2-bromo-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-pyridine-3-carbonitrile (B-125);
6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-phenyl-pyridine-3-carbonitrile (B-126);
4-[2-(4-methylpyridin-2-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-127);
4-[2-(5-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-128);
4-[2-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-129);
3-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine (B-130);

2-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine (B-131);

2-methyl-4-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine (B-132);

2-methyl-6-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine (B-133);

4-[2-(6-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-134);

2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole (B-135);

4-[2-(4-methylphenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-136);

2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-1H-imidazole (B-137);

2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-phenyl-1H-imidazole (B-138);

2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1H-imidazole (B-139);

2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole (B-140);

1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-phenyl-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole (B-141);

2-(4-methylphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole (B-142);

4-[2-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-143);

2-(3-fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole (B-144);

4-[2-(3-fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-145);

2-(3-methylphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole (B-146);

4-[2-(3-methylphenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-147);

1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole (B-148);

4-[2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-149);
4-[2-phenyl-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-150);
4-[2-(4-methoxy-3-chlorophenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-151);
1-allyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazole (B-152);
4-[1-ethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-153);
N-phenyl-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]acetamide (B-154);
ethyl [4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]acetate (B-155);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1-(2-phenylethyl)-1H-pyrazole (B-156);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1-(2-phenylethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazole (B-157);
1-ethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazole (B-158);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole (B-159);
4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(2-thiophenyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole (B-160);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methoxy-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (B-161);
2-ethoxy-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (B-162);
5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-(2-propynyoxy)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (B-163);
2-bromo-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine (B-164);
4-[2-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-4,5-difluorophenyl]benzenesulfonamide (B-165);
1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]benzene (B-166);
5-difluoromethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole (B-167);

4-[3-ethyl-5-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-168);
4-[5-difluoromethyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-169);
4-[5-hydroxymethyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-170);
4-[5-methyl-3-phenyl-isoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-171);
1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-172);
1-[2-(4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-173);
1-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-174);
1-[2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-175);
1-[2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-176);
1-[2-(4-methylthiophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-177);
1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-178);
4-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-179);
1-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-180);
4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-181);
4-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-182);
4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-183);
1-[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-184);
1-[2-(2,3-difluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-185);
4-[2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-186);
1-[2-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (B-187);
4-[2-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-188);
4-[2-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-189);
ethyl 2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazol-2-yl]-2-benzylacetate (B-190);
2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazol-2-yl]acetic acid (B-191);
2-(*tert*-butyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazole (B-192);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-phenyloxazole (B-193);
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazole (B-194);
4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-4-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide (B-195);

6-chloro-7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-196);
6-chloro-8-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-197);
5,5-dimethyl-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-4-methylsulfonyl-2(5H)-furanone (B-198);
6-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid (B-199);
4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-200);
4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-201);
4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(difluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-202);
3-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine (B-203);
2-methyl-5-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine (B-204);
4-[2-(5-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-205);
4-[5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-206);
4-[5-hydroxymethyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide (B-207);
[2-trifluoromethyl-5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide (B-208);
4-[2-methyl-4-phenyl-5-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide (B-209);
4-[5-(2-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-4-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide (B-210);
[2-(2-chloro-6-fluoro-phenylamino)-5-methyl-phenyl]-acetic acid or COX 189 (lumiracoxib; B-211);
N-(4-Nitro-2-phenoxy-phenyl)-methanesulfonamide or nimesulide (B-212);
N-[6-(2,4-difluoro-phenoxy)-1-oxo-indan-5-yl]-methanesulfonamide or flosulide (B-213);
N-[6-(2,4-Difluoro-phenylsulfanyl)-1-oxo-1H-inden-5-yl]-methanesulfonamide, sodium salt or L-745337 (B-214);
N-[5-(4-fluoro-phenylsulfanyl)-thiophen-2-yl]-methanesulfonamide or RWJ-63556 (B-215);
3-(3,4-Difluoro-phenoxy)-4-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-5H-furan-2-one or L-784512 or L-784512 (B-216);

(5Z)-2-amino-5-[[3,5-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-4(5H)-thiazolone or darbufelone (B-217);

CS-502 (B-218);

LAS-34475 (B-219);

LAS-34555 (B-220);

S-33516 (B-221);

SD-8381 (B-222);

L-783003 (B-223);

N-[3-(formylamino)-4-oxo-6-phenoxy-4H-1-benzopyran-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or T-614 (B-224);

D-1367 (B-225);

L-748731 (B-226);

(6aR,10aR)-3-(1,1-dimethylheptyl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydro-1-hydroxy-6,6-dimethyl-6H-dibenzo[b,d]pyran-9-carboxylic acid or CT3 (B-227);

CGP-28238 (B-228);

4-[[3,5-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]dihydro-2-methyl-2H-1,2-oxazin-3(4H)-one or BF-389 (B-229);

GR-253035 (B-230);

6-dioxo-9H-purin-8-yl-cinnamic acid (B-231);

S-2474 (B-232);

4-[4-(methyl)sulfonyl]phenyl]-3-phenyl-2(5H)-furanone;

4-(5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-isoxazolyl);

2-(6-methylpyrid-3-yl)-3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-5-chloropyridine;

4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl];

N-[[4-(5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-isoxazolyl)phenyl]sulfonyl];

4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-difluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;

(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;

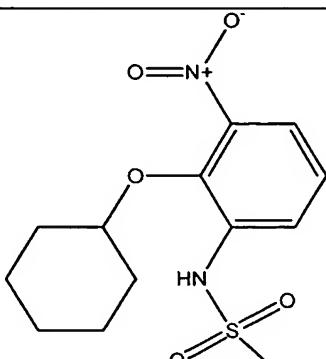
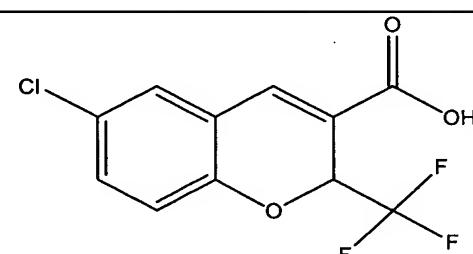
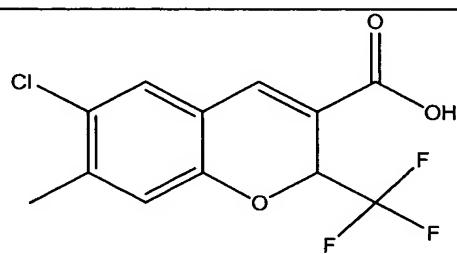
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridzainone;

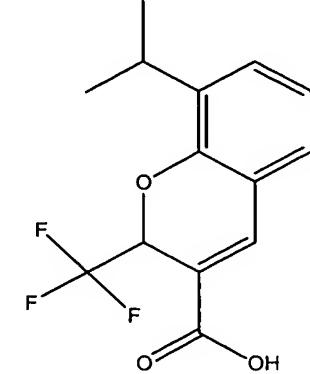
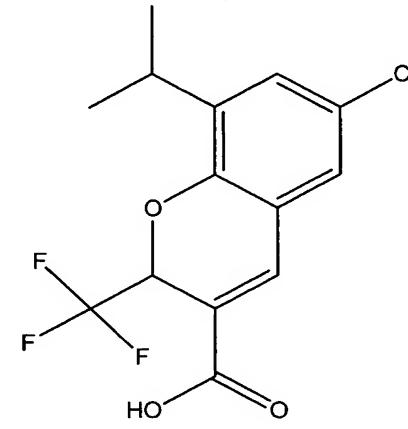
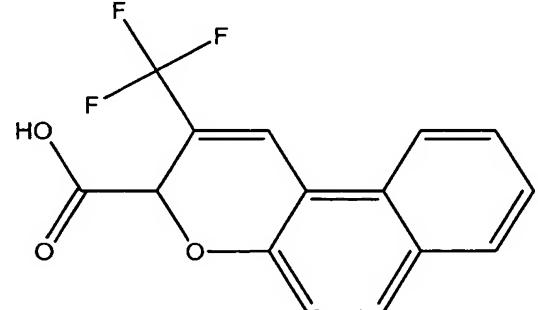
2-trifluoromethyl-3H-naptho[2,1-b]pyran-3-carboxylic acid;

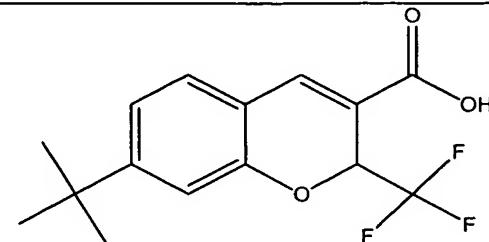
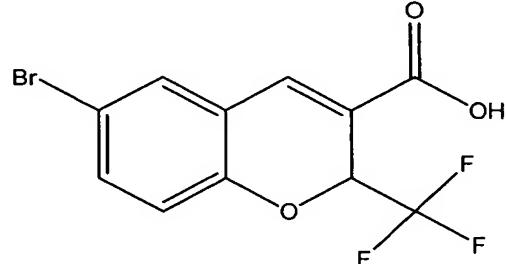
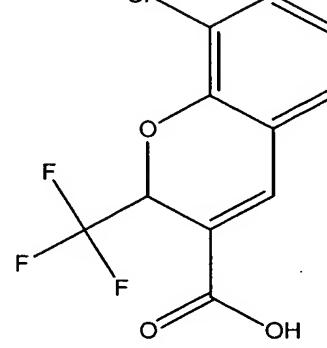
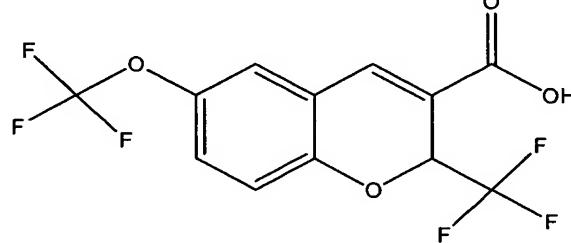
6-chloro-7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;

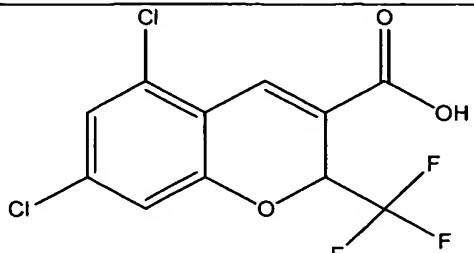
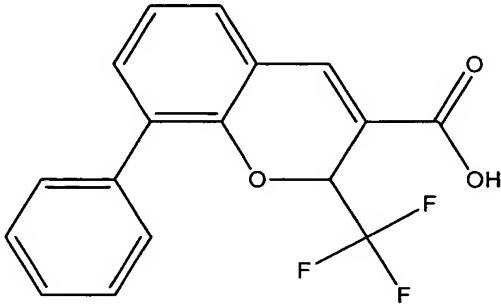
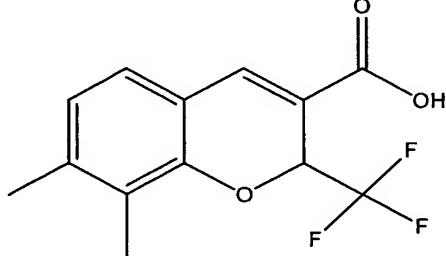
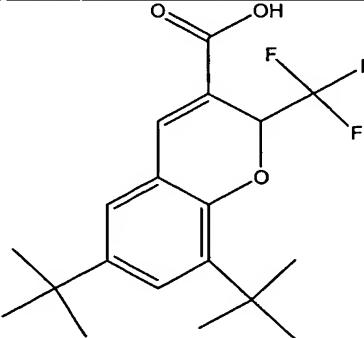
[2-(2,4-dichloro-6-ethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenylamino)-5-propyl-phenyl]-acetic acid.

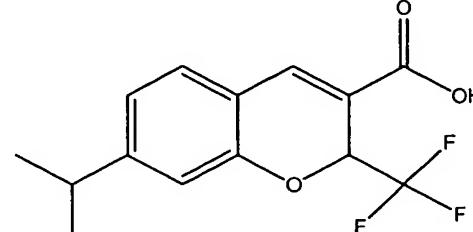
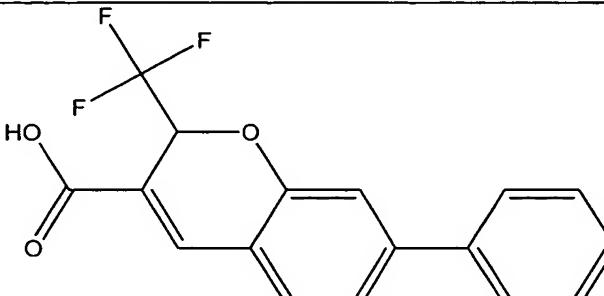
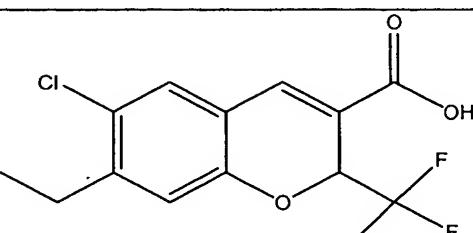
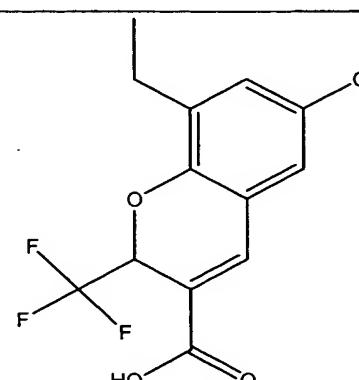
Table 3x
Examples of Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitors as Embodiments

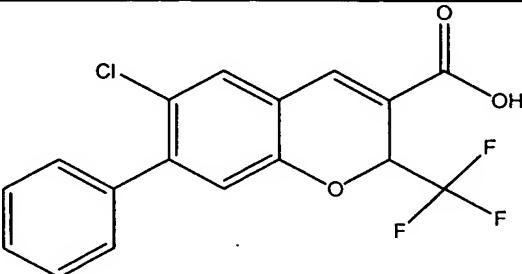
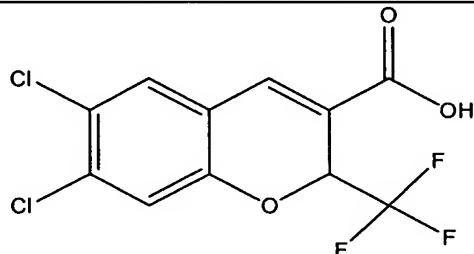
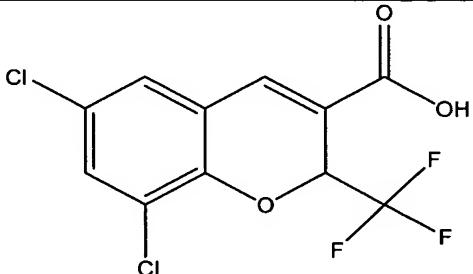
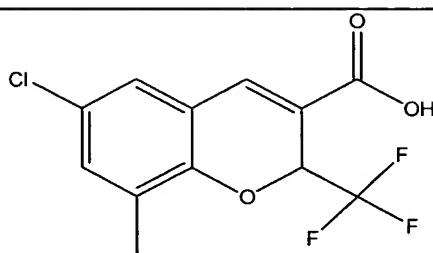
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-26	 <p style="text-align: center;">N-(2-cyclohexyloxynitrophenyl) methane sulfonamide or NS-398;</p>
B-27	 <p style="text-align: center;">6-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-28	 <p style="text-align: center;">6-chloro-7-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>

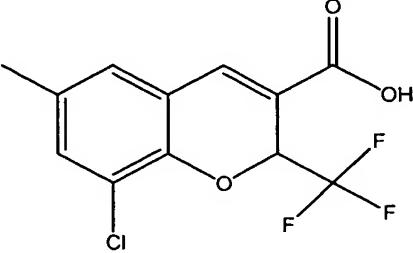
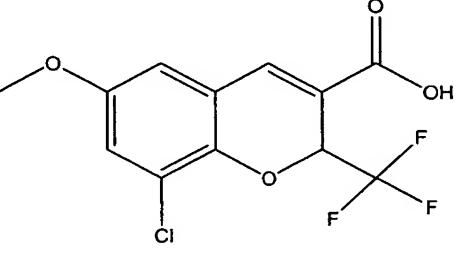
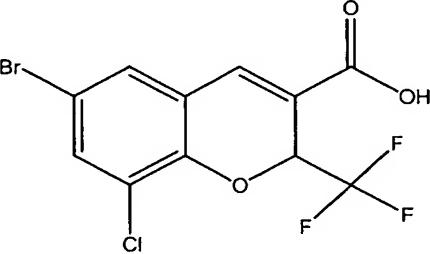
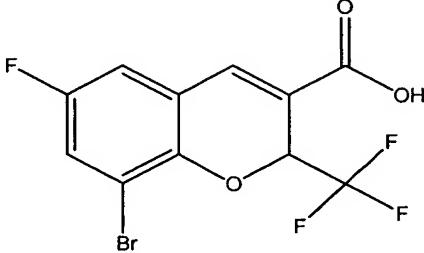
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-29	 <p>8-(1-methylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-30	 <p>6-chloro-8-(1-methylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-31	 <p>2-trifluoromethyl-3H-naphtho[2,1-b]pyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

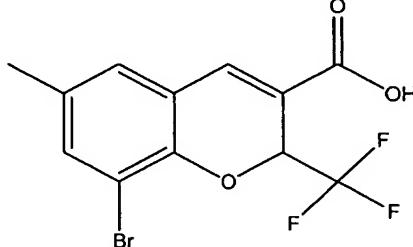
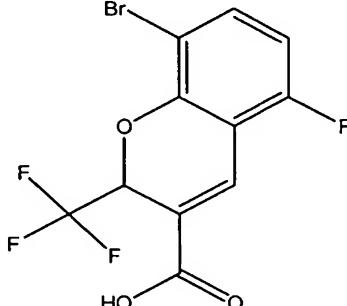
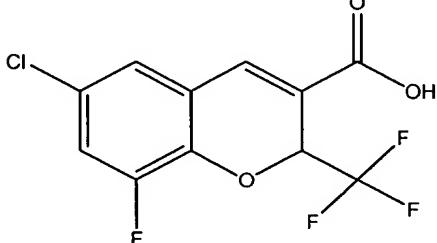
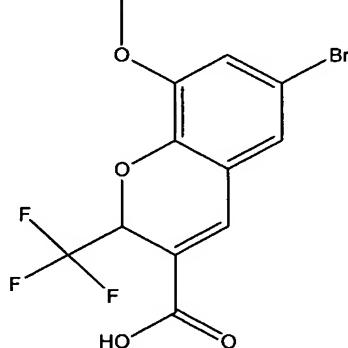
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-32	 <p>7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-33	 <p>6-bromo-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-34	 <p>8-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-35	 <p>6-trifluoromethoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>

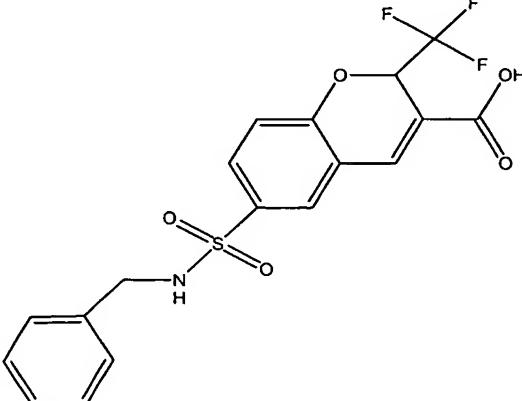
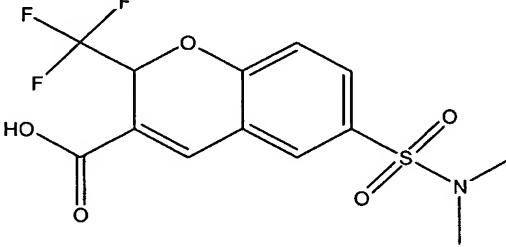
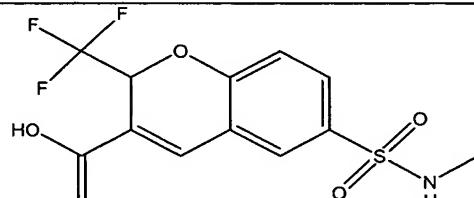
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-36	 <p>5,7-dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-37	 <p>8-phenyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-38	 <p>7,8-dimethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-39	 <p>6,8-bis(dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

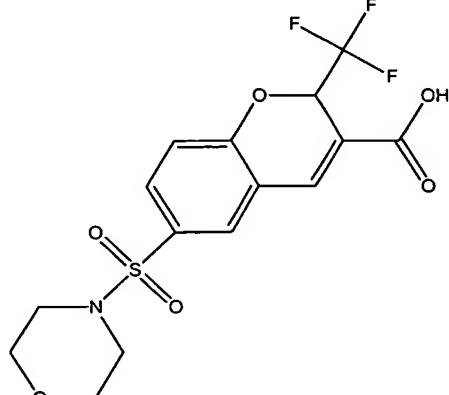
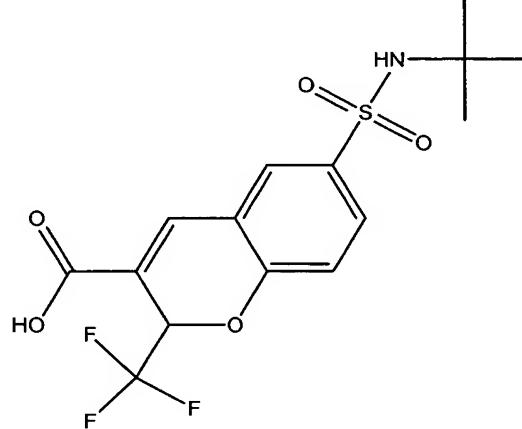
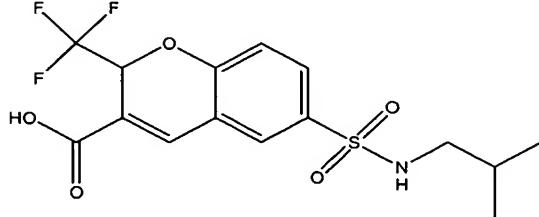
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-40	
	7-(1-methylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;
B-41	
	7-phenyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;
B-42	
	6-chloro-7-ethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;
B-43	
	6-chloro-8-ethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;

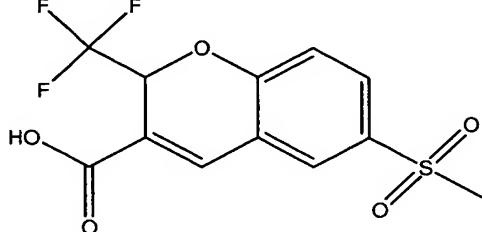
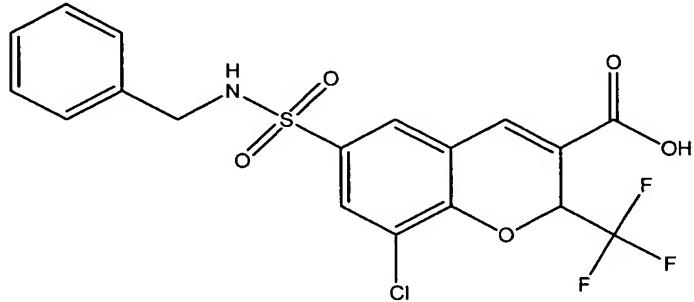
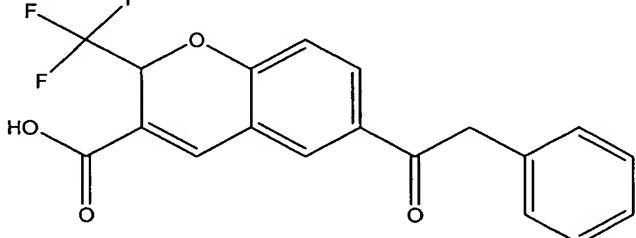
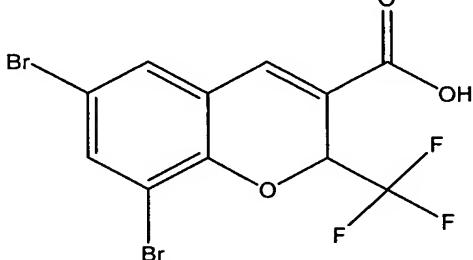
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-44	 <p>6-chloro-7-phenyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-45	 <p>6,7-dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-46	 <p>6,8-dichloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-47	 <p>6-chloro-8-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

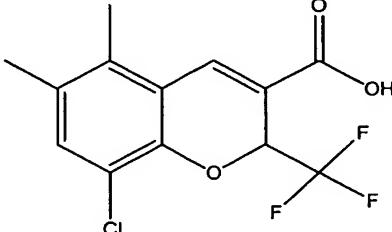
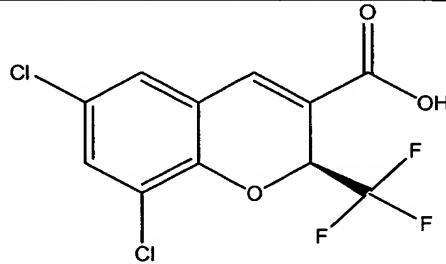
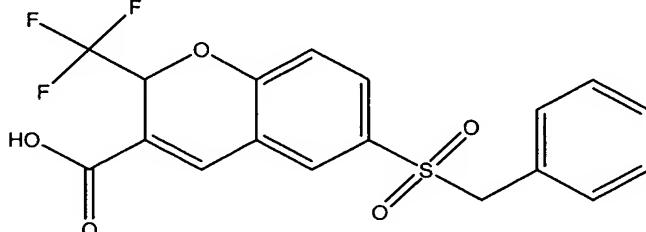
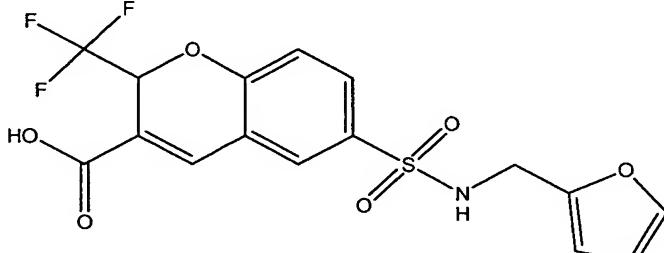
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-48	 <p>8-chloro-6-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-49	 <p>8-chloro-6-methoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-50	 <p>6-bromo-8-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-51	 <p>8-bromo-6-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

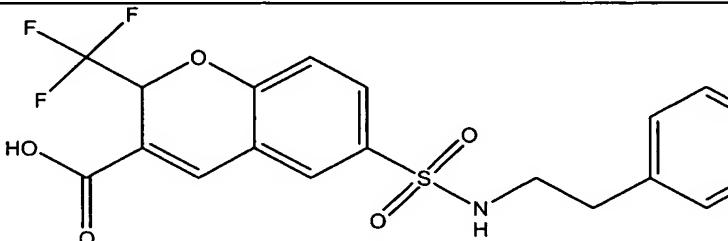
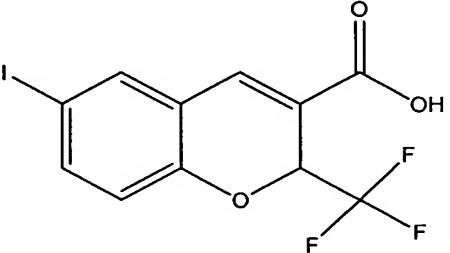
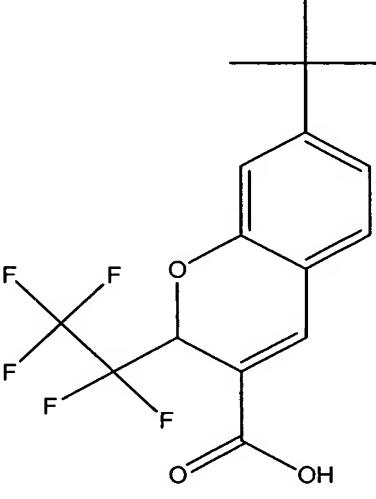
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-52	 <p>8-bromo-6-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-53	 <p>8-bromo-5-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-54	 <p>6-chloro-8-fluoro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-55	 <p>6-bromo-8-methoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

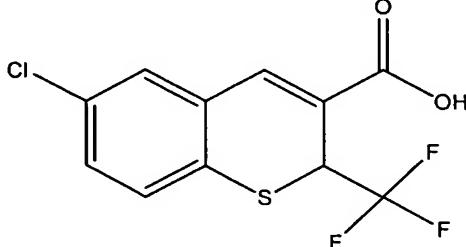
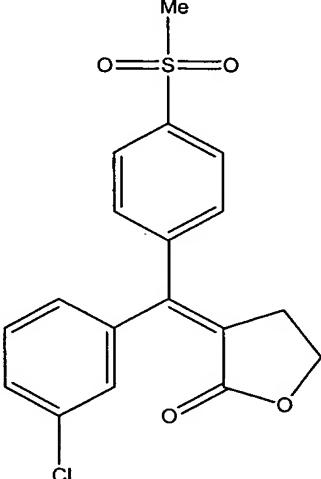
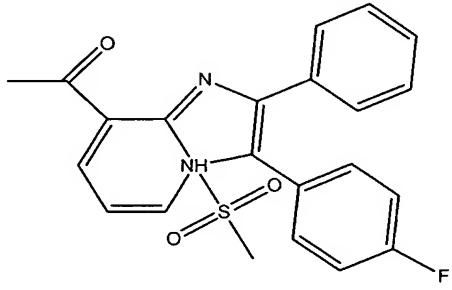
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-56	 <p>6-[(phenylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-57	 <p>6-[(dimethylamino)sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>
B-58	 <p>6-[(methylamino)sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

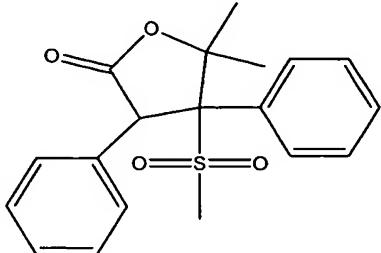
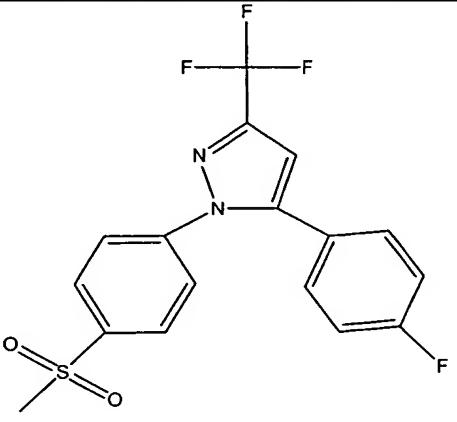
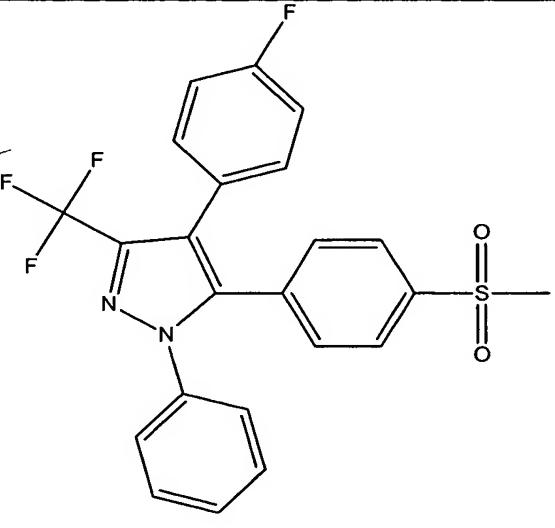
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-59	 <p>6-[(4-morpholino)sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-60	 <p>6-[(1,1-dimethylethyl)aminosulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-61	 <p>6-[(2-methylpropyl)aminosulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid</p>

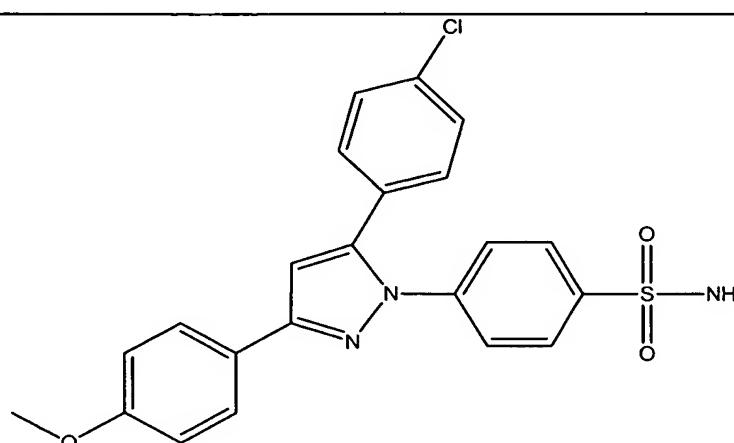
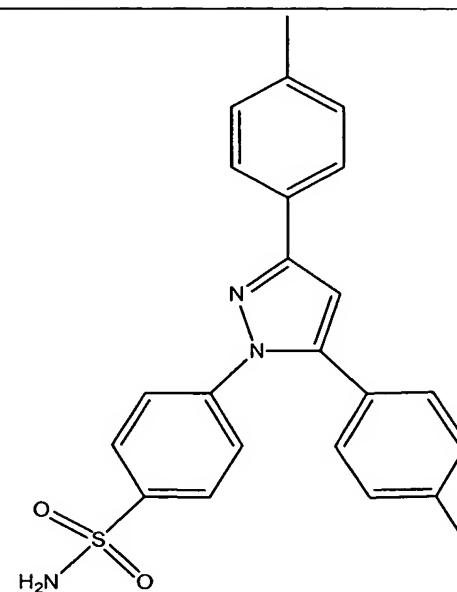
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-62	 <p>6-methylsulfonyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-63	 <p>8-chloro-6-[(phenylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-64	 <p>6-phenylacetyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-65	 <p>6,8-dibromo-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-66	 <p>8-chloro-5,6-dimethyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-67	 <p>6,8-dichloro-(S)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-68	 <p>6-benzylsulfonyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-69	 <p>6-[[N-(2-furylmethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

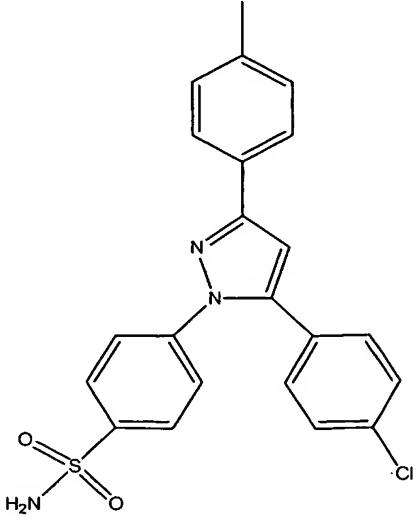
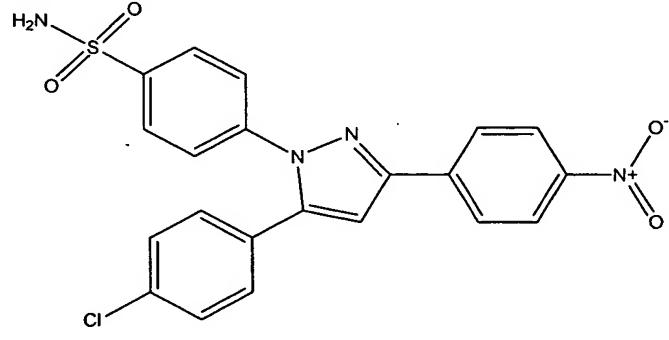
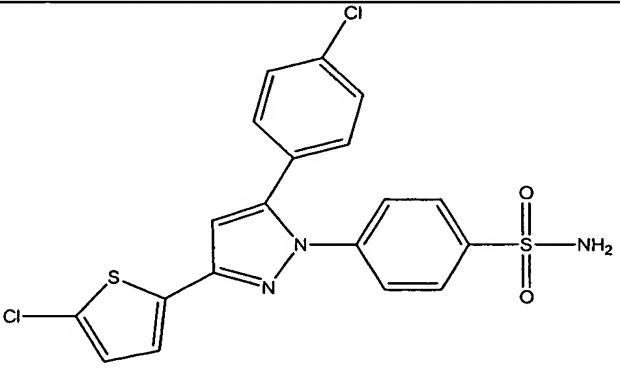
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-70	 <p>6-[[N-(2-phenylethyl)amino]sulfonyl]-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-71	 <p>6-iodo-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-72	 <p>7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-pentafluoroethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-73	 <p>6-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-74	 <p>3-[(3-chloro-phenyl)-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-methylene]-dihydro-furan-2-one or BMS-347070;</p>
B-75	 <p>8-acetyl-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl-imidazo(1,2-a)pyridine;</p>

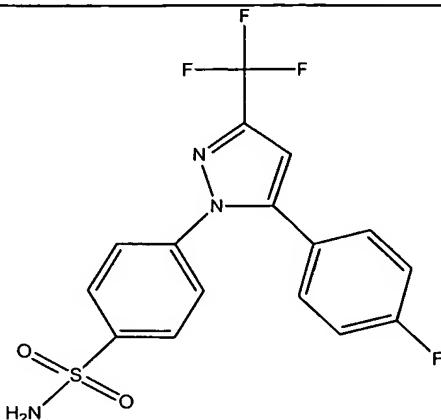
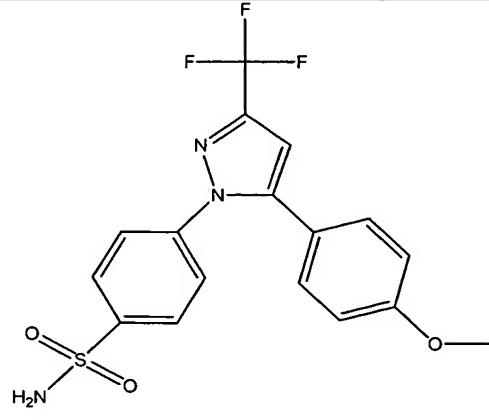
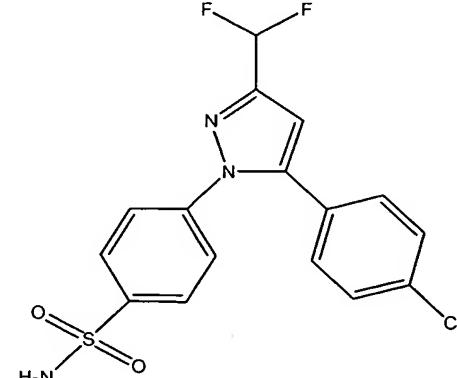
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-76	 <p>5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl-3-phenyl-2-(5H)-furanone;</p>
B-77	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazole;</p>
B-78	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazole;</p>

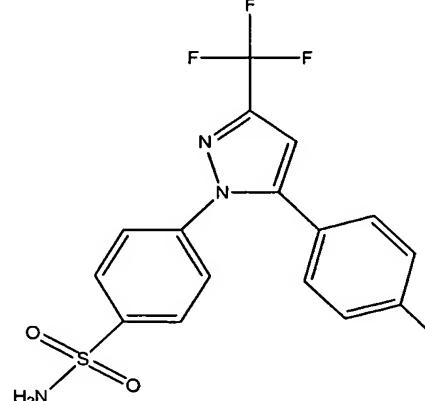
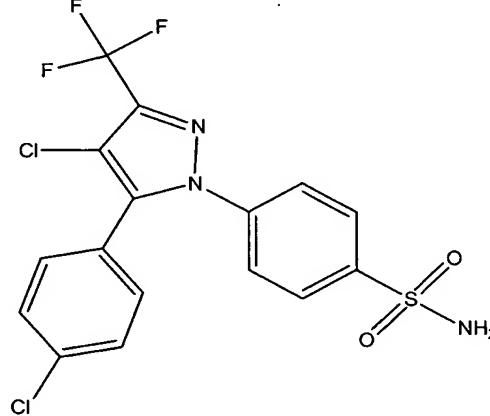
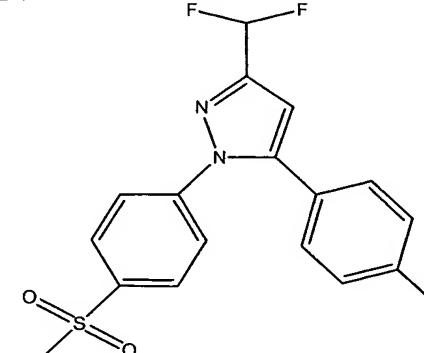
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-79	 <p>4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-80	 <p>4-(3,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>

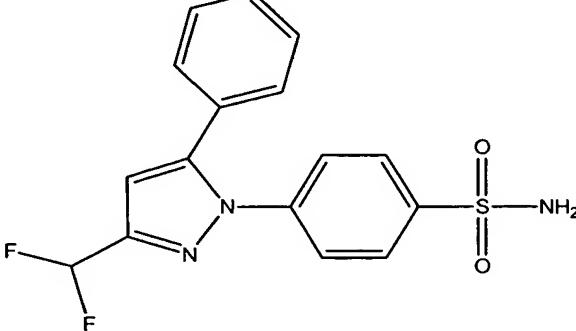
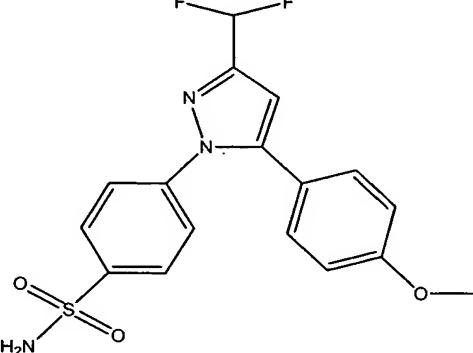
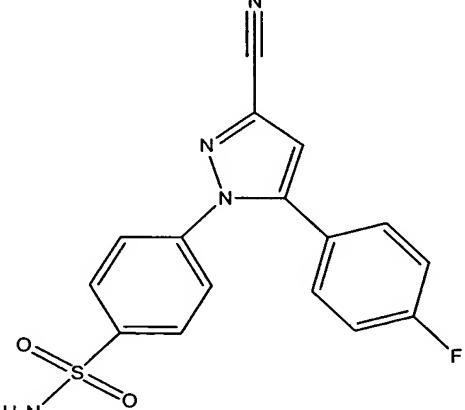
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-81	<p>4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-82	<p>4-(3,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>

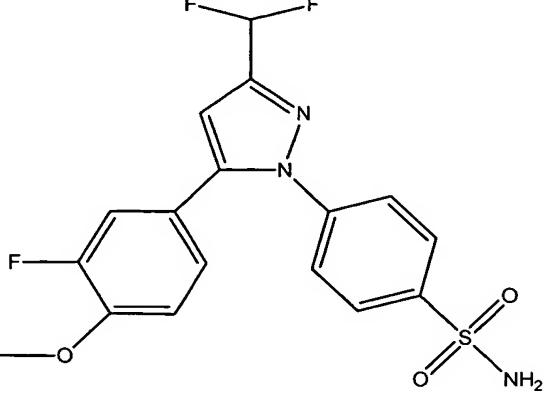
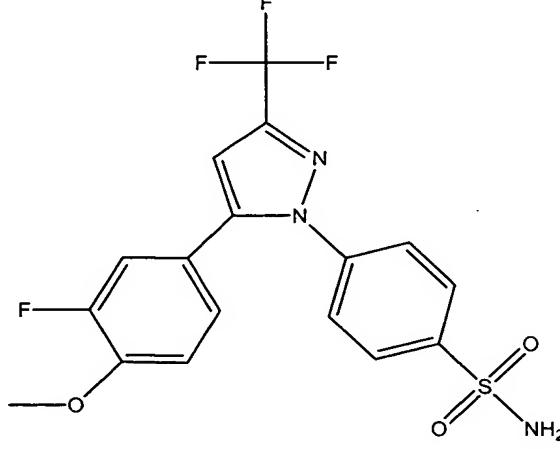
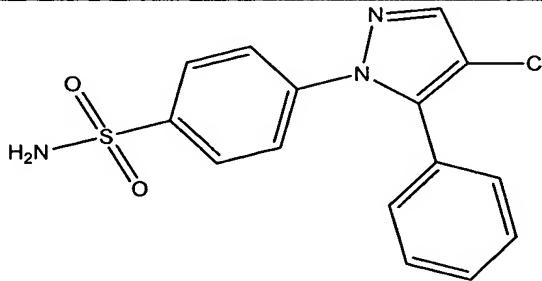
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-83	 <p>4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(4-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-84	 <p>4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-85	 <p>4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(5-chloro-2-thienyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>

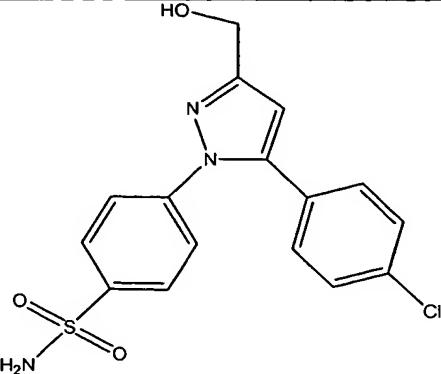
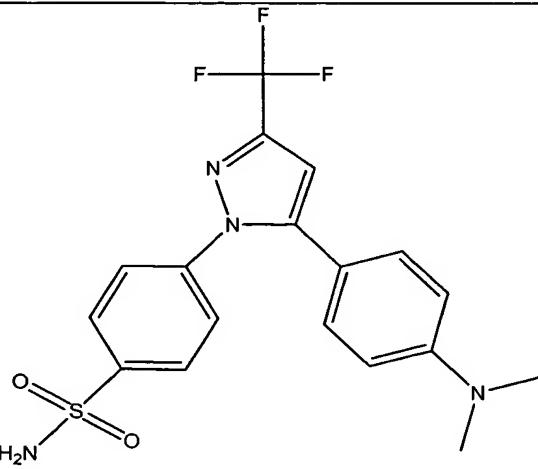
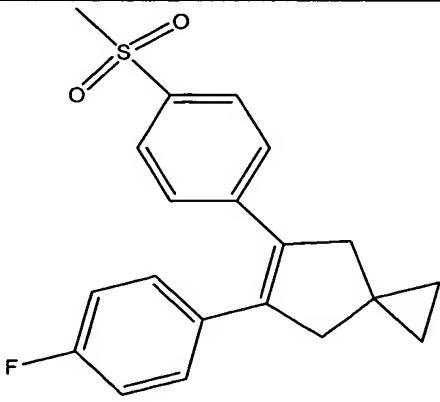
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-86	<p>4-(4-chloro-3,5-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-87	<p>4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-88	<p>4-[5-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

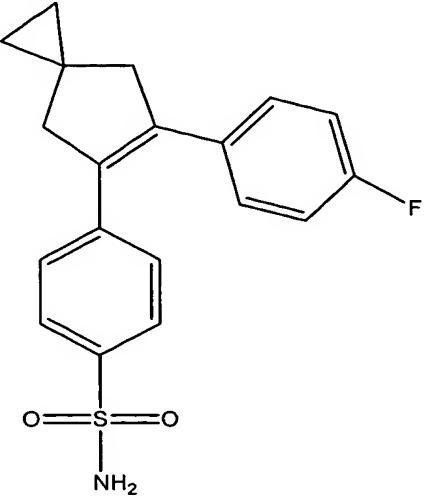
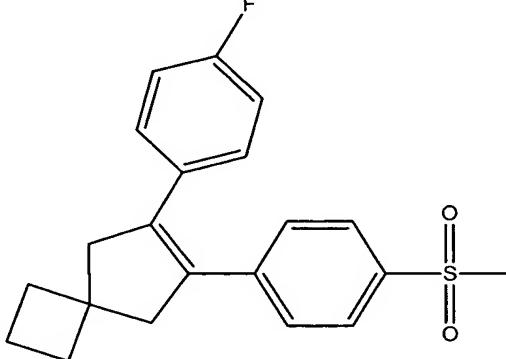
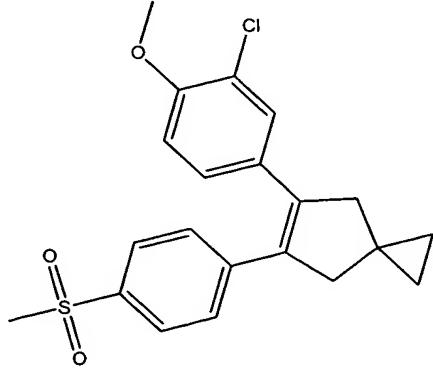
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-89	 <p>4-[5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-90	 <p>4-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-91	 <p>4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(difluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-92	 <p>4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-93	 <p>4-[4-chloro-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-94	 <p>4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-95	 <p>4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-96	 <p>4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-97	 <p>4-[3-cyano-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

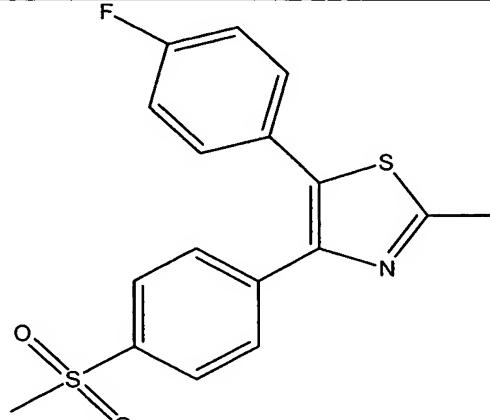
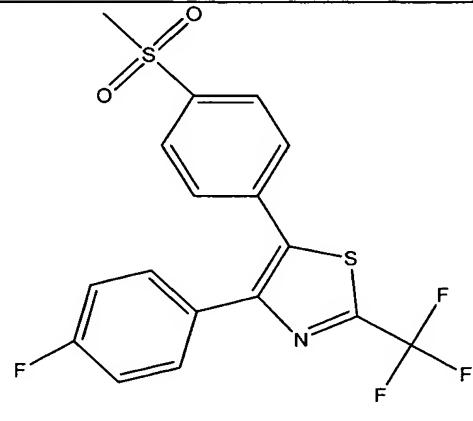
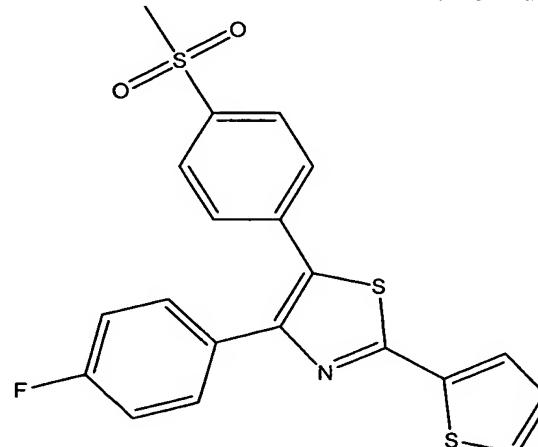
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-98	 <p>4-[3-(difluoromethyl)-5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-99	 <p>4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-100	 <p>4-[4-chloro-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

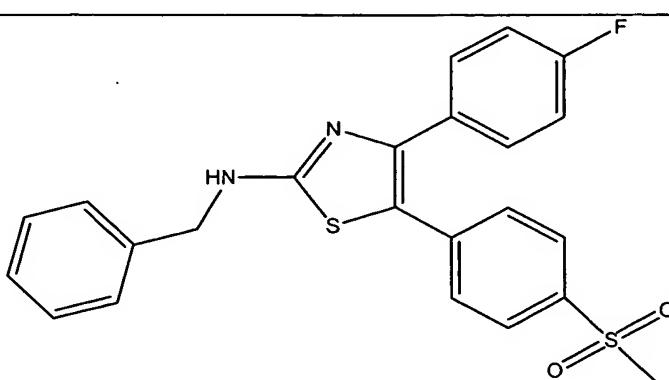
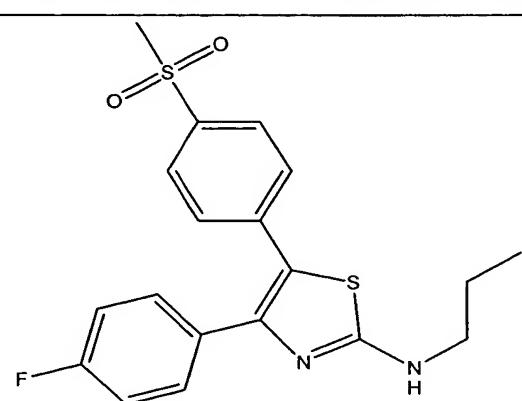
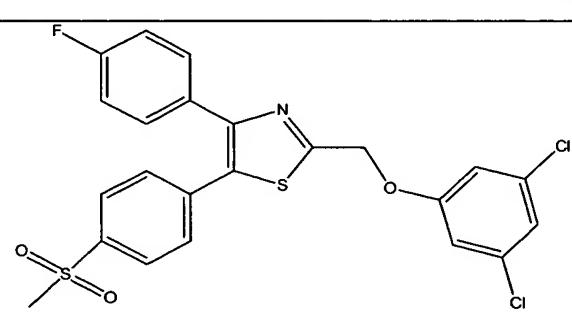
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-101	 <p>4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-102	 <p>4-[5-(4-(N,N-dimethylamino)phenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-103	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene;</p>

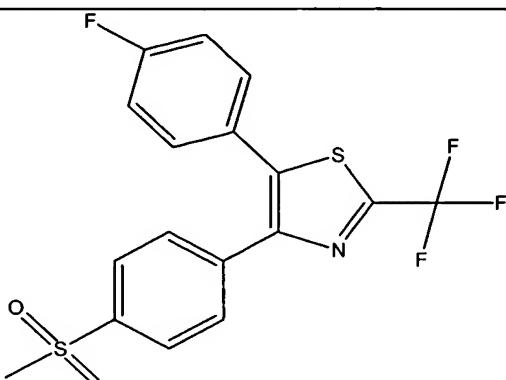
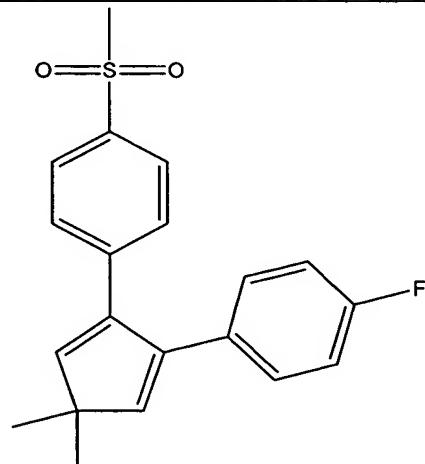
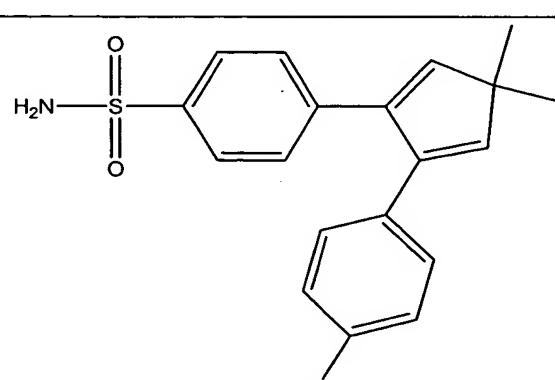
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-104	 <p>4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-105	 <p>6-(4-fluorophenyl)-7-[4-methylsulfonyl]phenylspiro[3.4]oct-6-ene;</p>
B-106	 <p>5-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene;</p>

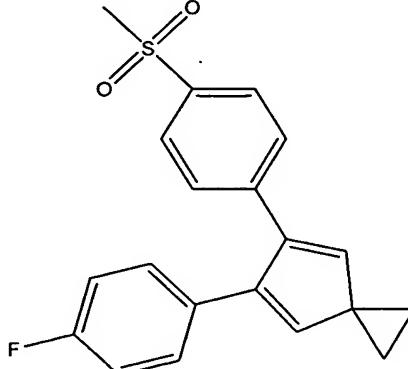
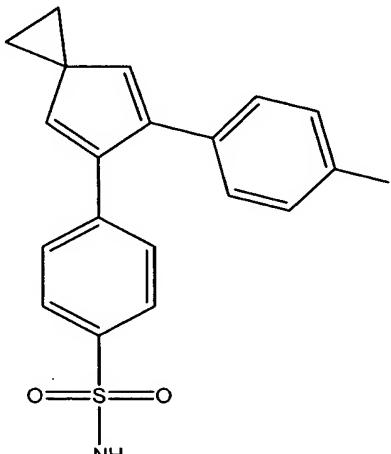
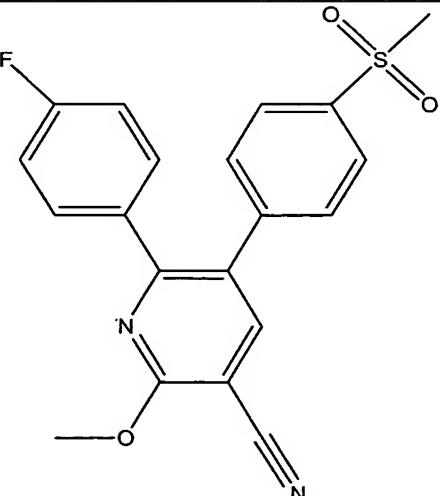
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-107	<p>4-[6-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-108	<p>5-(3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene;</p>
B-109	<p>5-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hept-5-ene;</p>

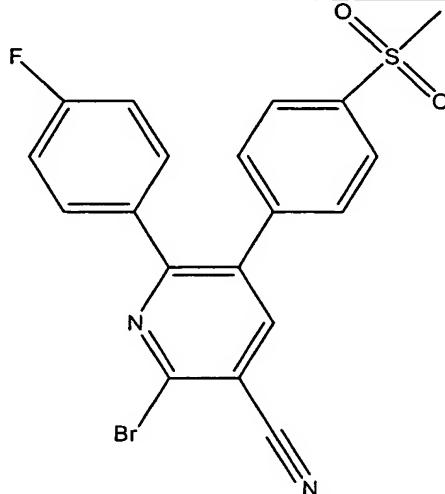
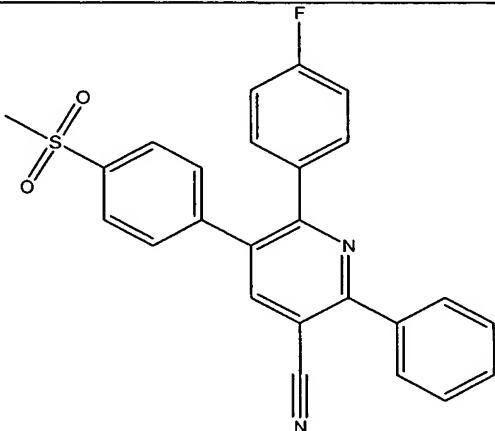
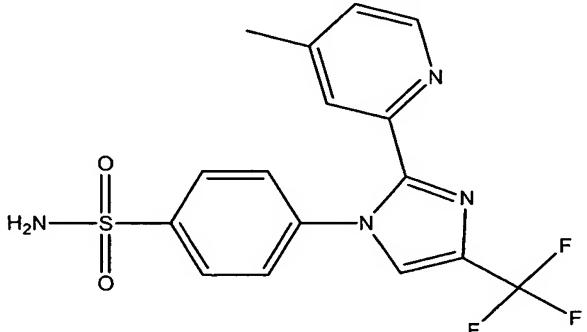
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-110	<p>4-[6-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hept-5-en-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-111	<p>2-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)thiazole;</p>
B-112	<p>2-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)thiazole;</p>

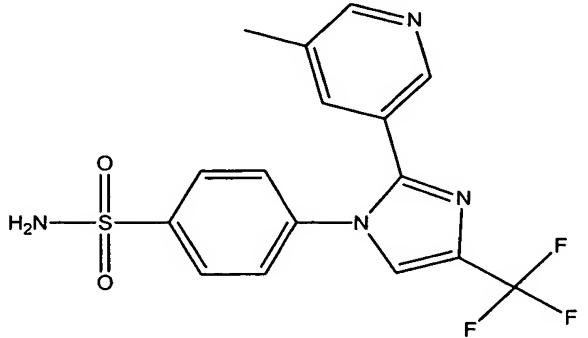
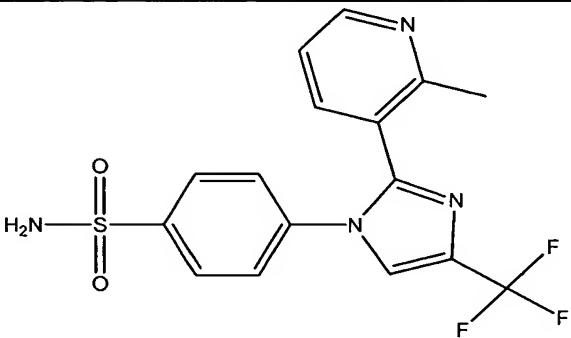
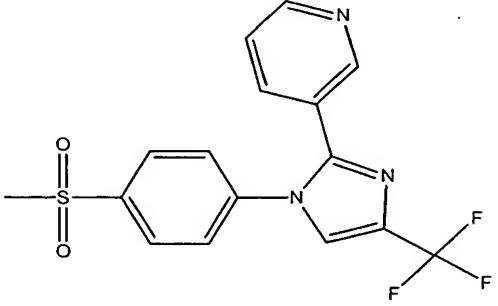
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-113	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-methylthiazole;</p>
B-114	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-trifluoromethylthiazole;</p>
B-115	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-(2-thienyl)thiazole;</p>

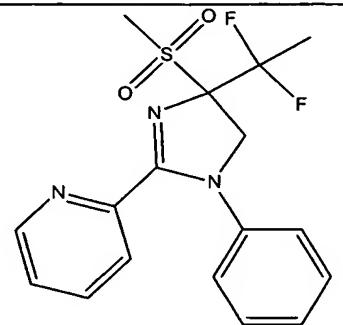
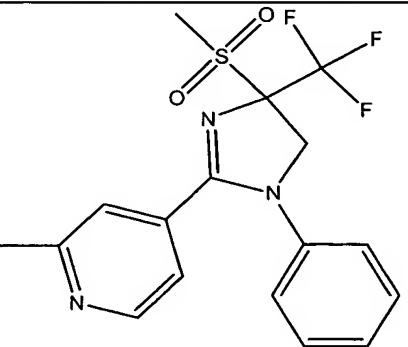
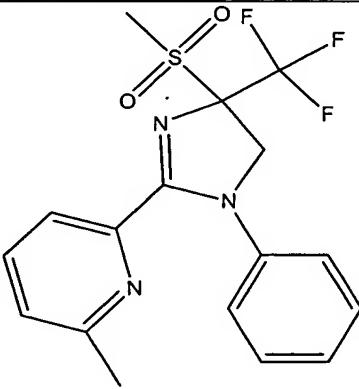
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-116	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-benzylaminothiazole;</p>
B-117	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-(1-propylamino)thiazole;</p>
B-118	 <p>2-((3,5-dichlorophenoxy)methyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]thiazole;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-119	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-trifluoromethylthiazole;</p>
B-120	 <p>1-methylsulfonyl-4-[1,1-dimethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenta-2,4-dien-3-yl]benzene;</p>
B-121	 <p>4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,1-dimethylcyclopenta-2,4-dien-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

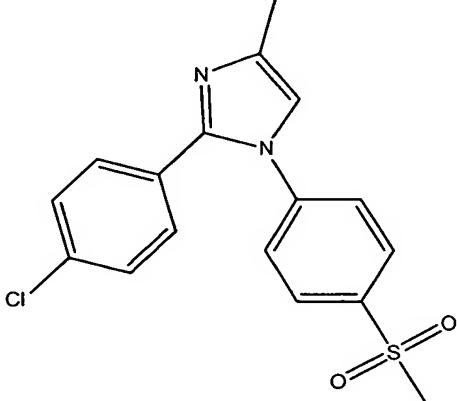
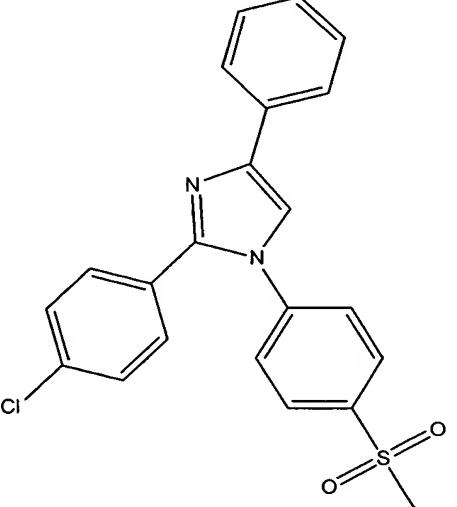
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-122	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-diene;</p>
B-123	 <p>4-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)spiro[2.4]hepta-4,6-dien-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-124	 <p>6-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methoxy-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-pyridine-3-carbonitrile;</p>

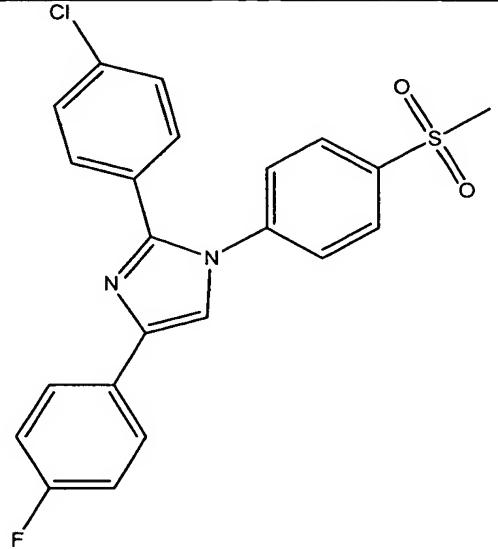
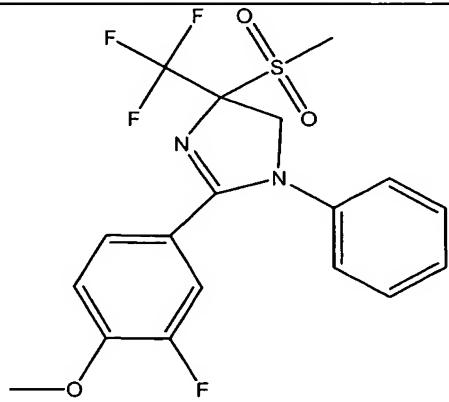
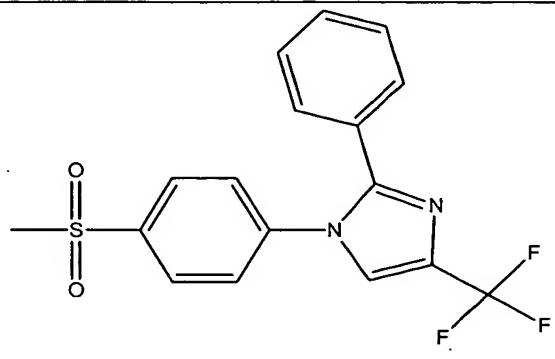
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-125	 <p>2-bromo-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-pyridine-3-carbonitrile;</p>
B-126	 <p>6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-phenyl-pyridine-3-carbonitrile;</p>
B-127	 <p>4-[2-(4-methylpyridin-2-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

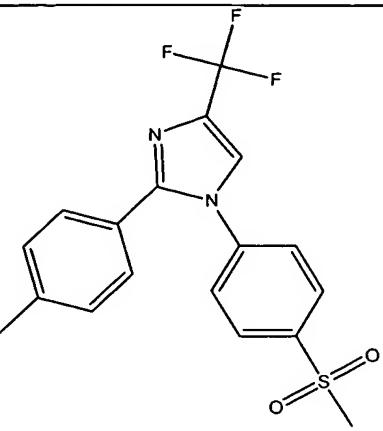
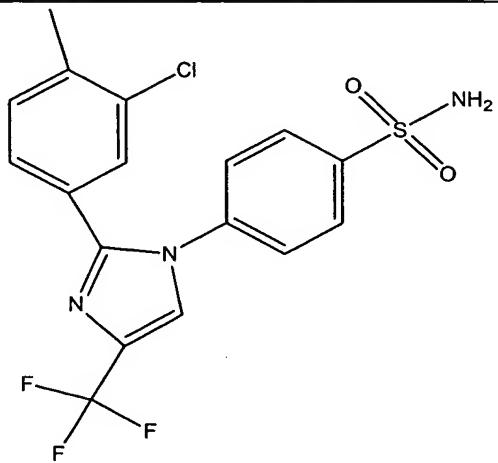
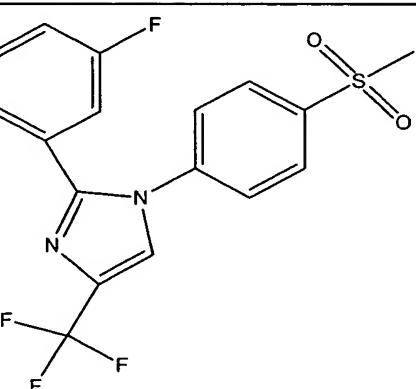
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-128	 <p>4-[2-(5-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-129	 <p>4-[2-(2-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-130	 <p>3-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-131	 <p>2-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine;</p>
B-132	 <p>2-methyl-4-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine;</p>
B-133	 <p>2-methyl-6-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine;</p>

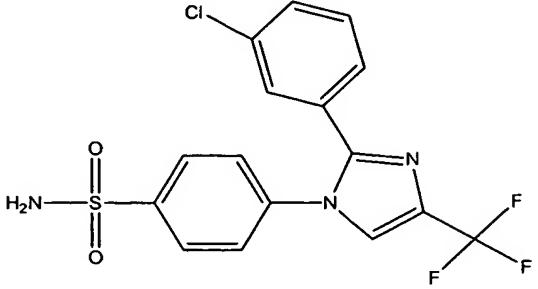
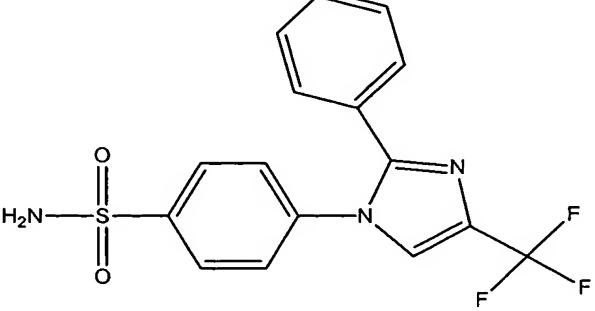
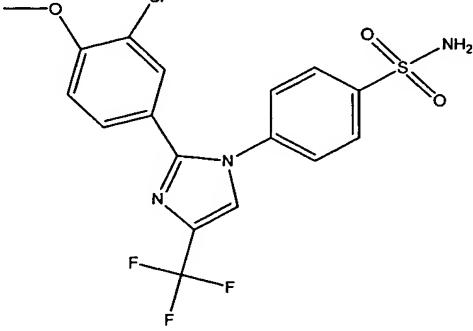
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-134	<p>4-[2-(6-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-135	<p>2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-136	<p>4-[2-(4-methylphenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

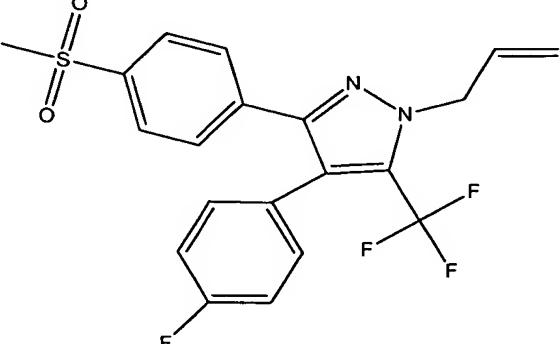
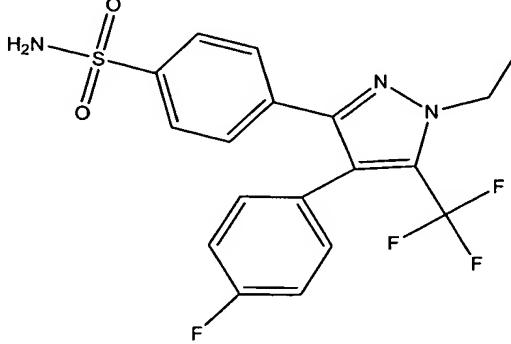
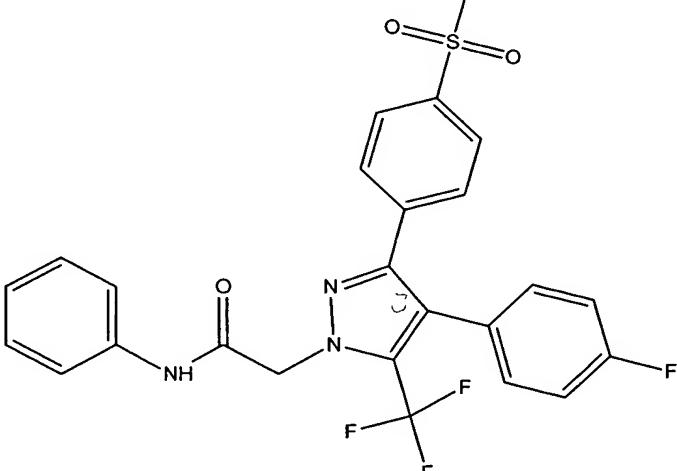
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-137	 <p>2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-methyl-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-138	 <p>2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-phenyl-1H-imidazole;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-139	 <p>2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-140	 <p>2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-141	 <p>1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-phenyl-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole;</p>

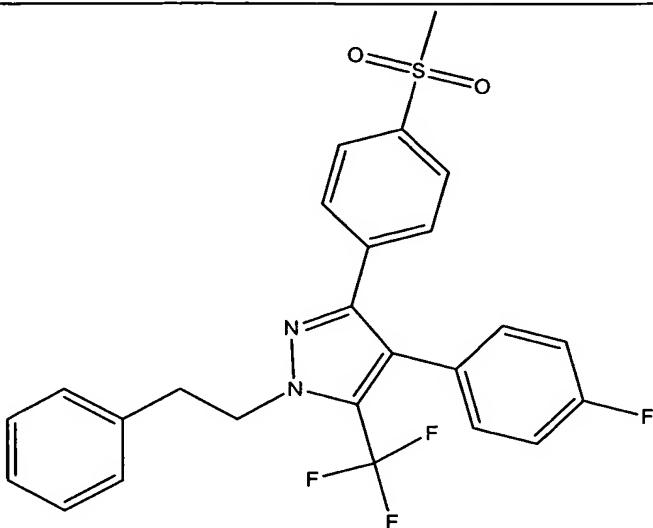
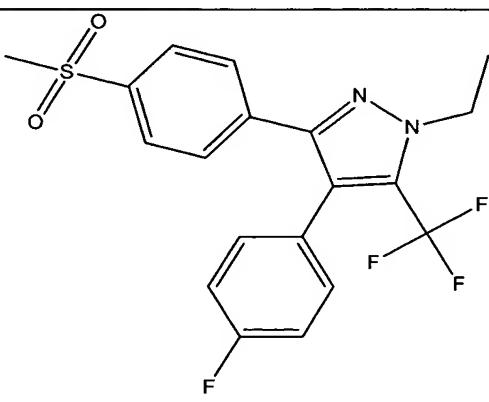
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-142	 <p>2-(4-methylphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-143	 <p>4-[2-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-144	 <p>2-(3-fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole;</p>

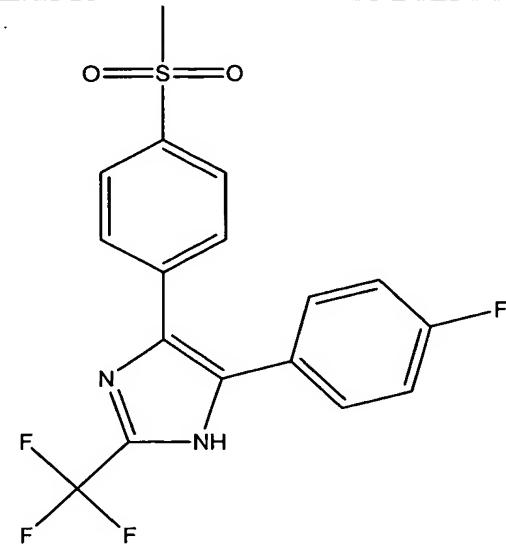
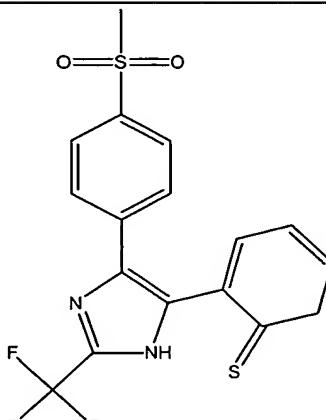
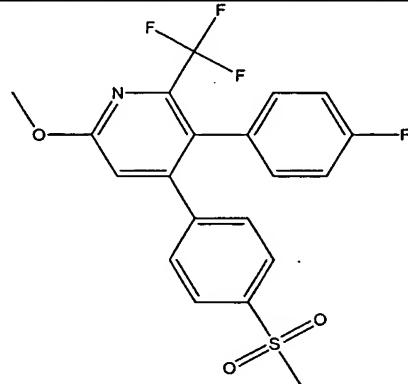
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-145	<p>4-[2-(3-fluoro-5-methylphenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-146	<p>2-(3-methylphenyl)-1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-147	<p>4-[2-(3-methylphenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-148	<p>1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole</p>

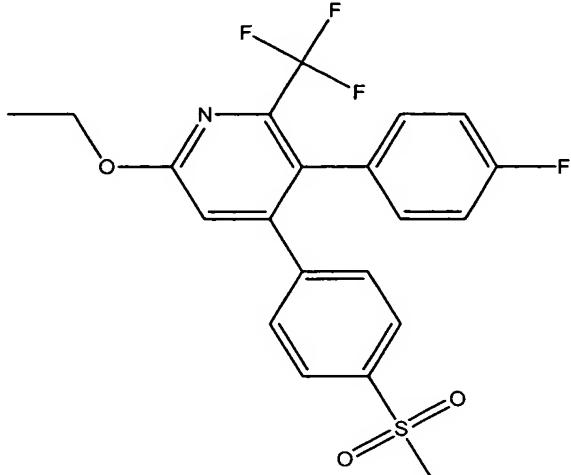
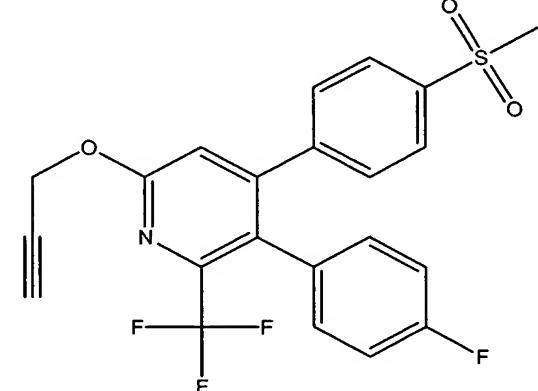
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-149	 <p>4-[2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-150	 <p>4-[2-phenyl-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-151	 <p>4-[2-(4-methoxy-3-chlorophenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

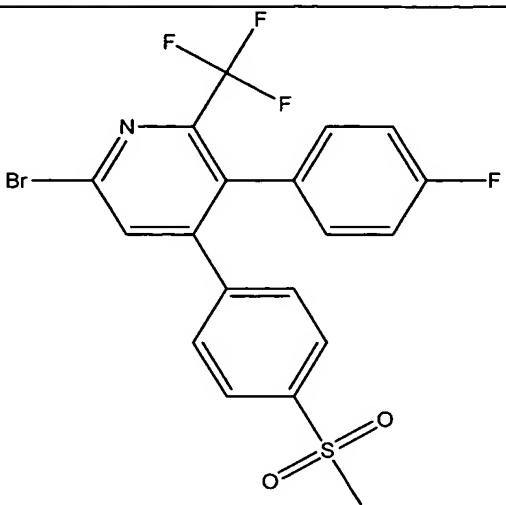
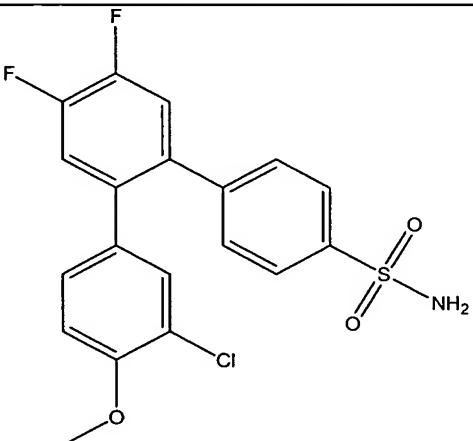
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-152	 <p>1-allyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazole;</p>
B-153	 <p>4-[1-ethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-154	 <p>N-phenyl-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]acetamide;</p>

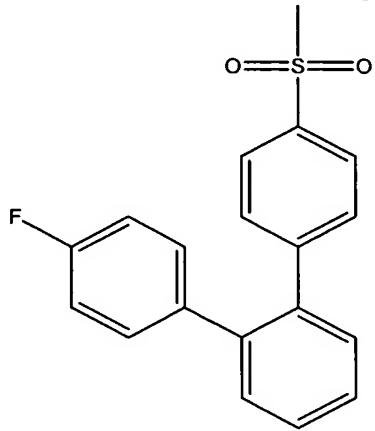
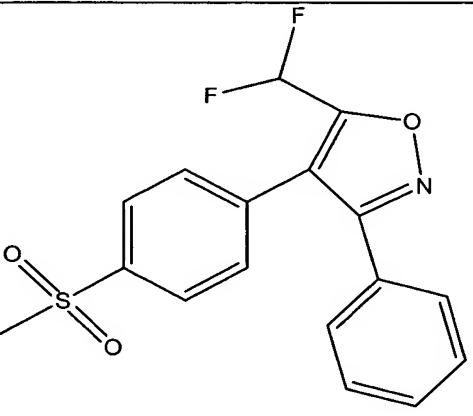
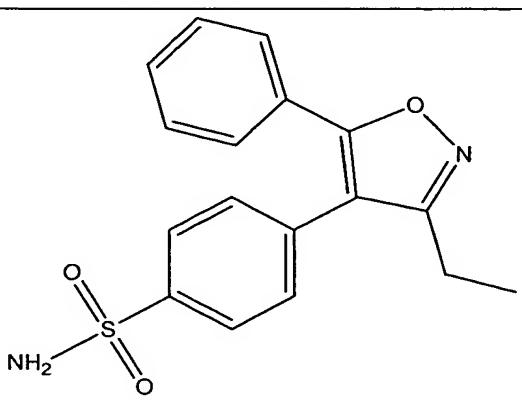
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-155	<p>ethyl[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]acetate;</p>
B-156	<p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1-(2-phenylethyl)-1H-pyrazole;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-157	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1-(2-phenylethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)pyrazole;</p>
B-158	 <p>1-ethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazole;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-159	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-160	 <p>4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-5-(2-thiophenyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazole;</p>
B-161	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methoxy-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine;</p>

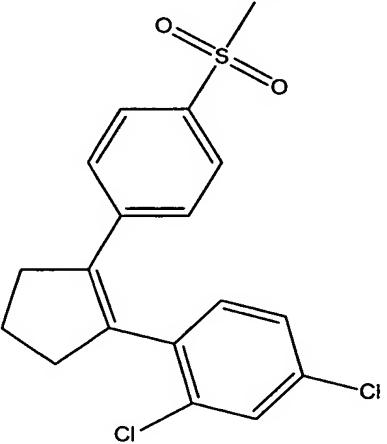
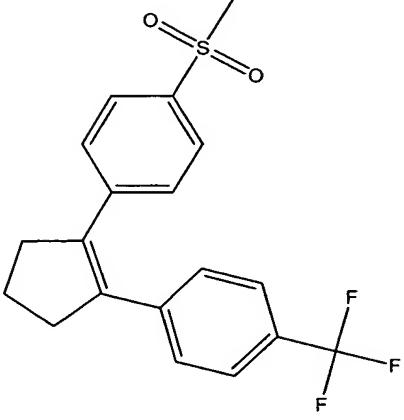
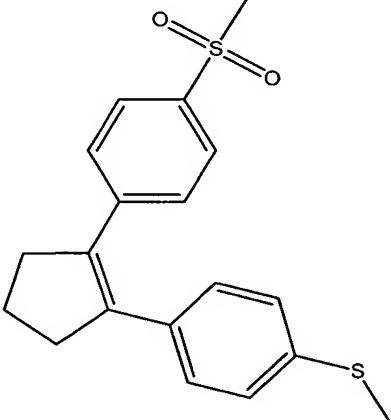
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-162	 <p>2-ethoxy-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine;</p>
B-163	 <p>5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-(2-propynyoxy)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine;</p>

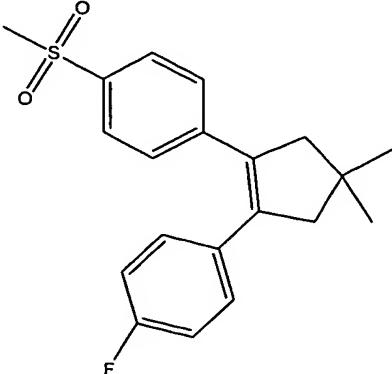
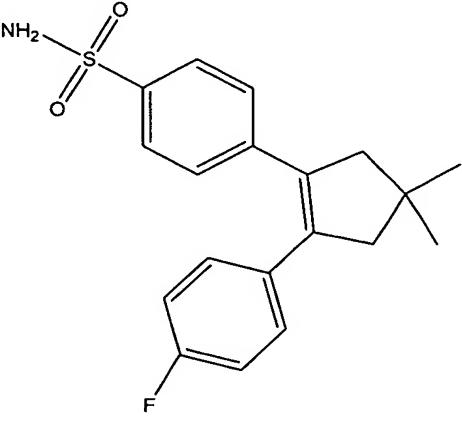
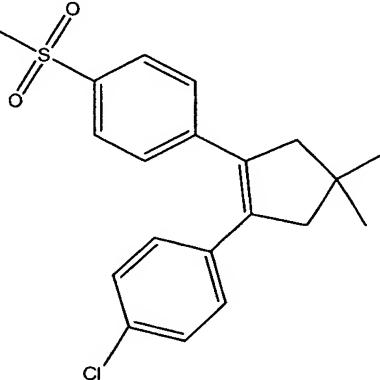
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-164	 <p>2-bromo-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine;</p>
B-165	 <p>4-[2-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)-4,5-difluorophenyl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

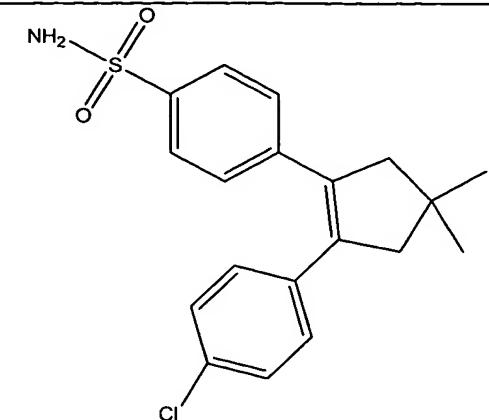
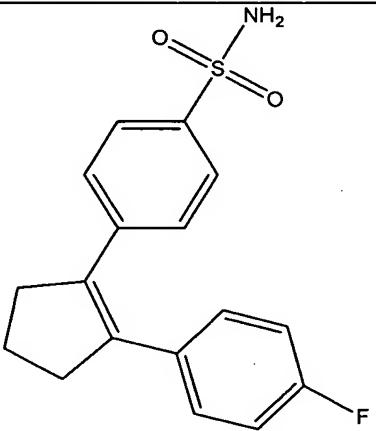
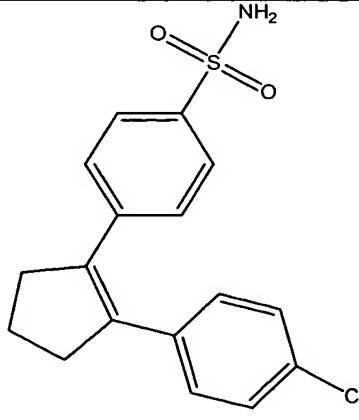
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-166	 <p>1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-[4-methylsulfonyl]phenyl]benzene;</p>
B-167	 <p>5-difluoromethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-phenylisoxazole;</p>
B-168	 <p>4-[3-ethyl-5-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

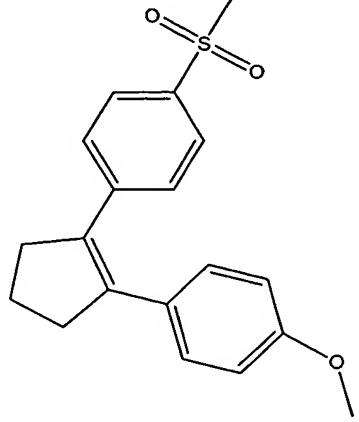
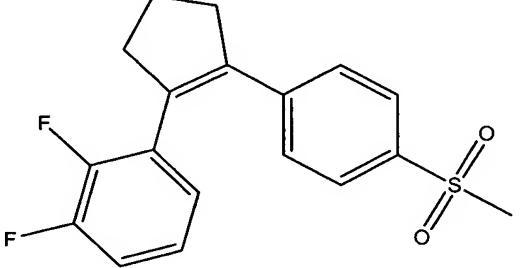
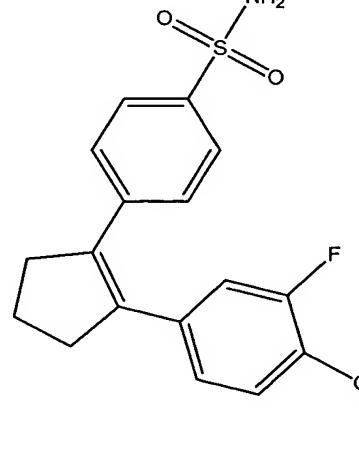
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-169	<p>4-[5-difluoromethyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-170	<p>4-[5-hydroxymethyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-171	<p>4-[5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

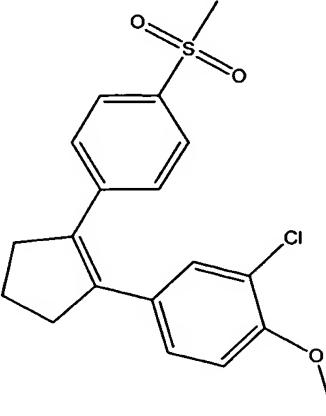
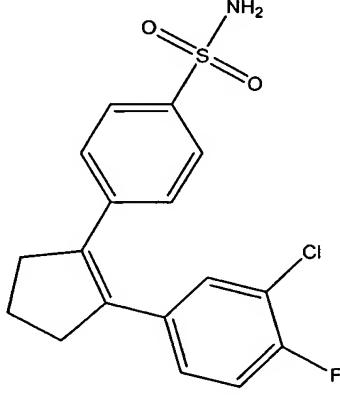
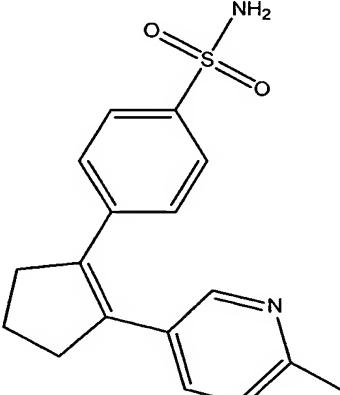
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-172	 1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;
B-173	 1-[2-(4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;
B-174	 1-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;

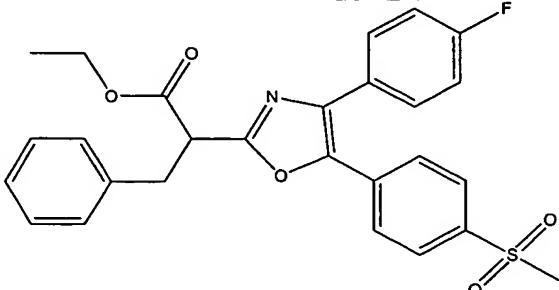
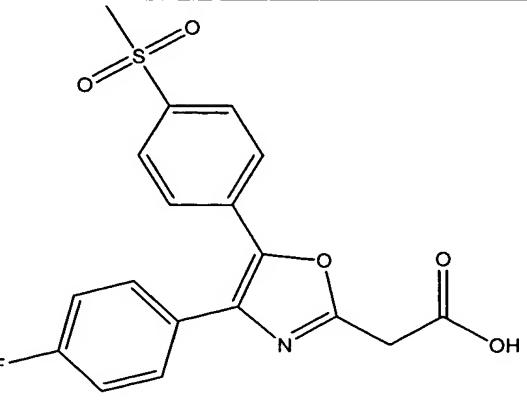
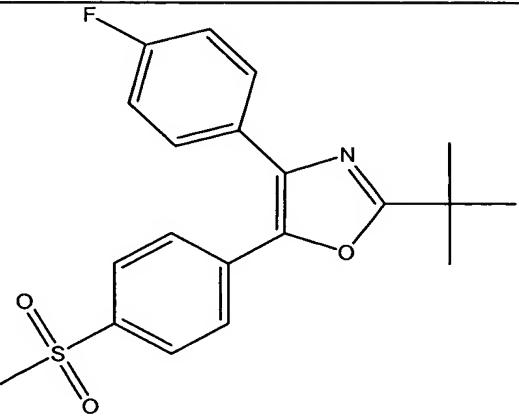
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-175	 <p>1-[2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>
B-176	 <p>1-[2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>
B-177	 <p>1-[2-(4-methylthiophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>

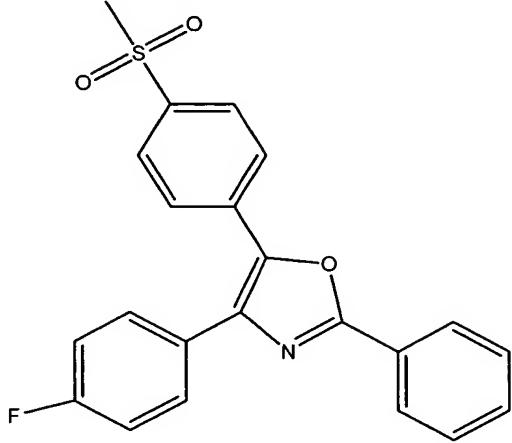
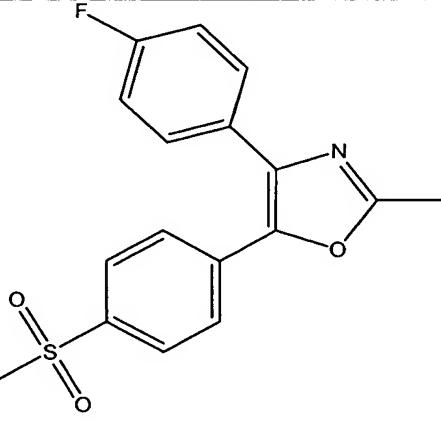
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-178	 <p>1-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>
B-179	 <p>4-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-180	 <p>1-[2-(3-chlorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-181	 <p>4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,4-dimethylcyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-182	 <p>4-[2-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-183	 <p>4-[2-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

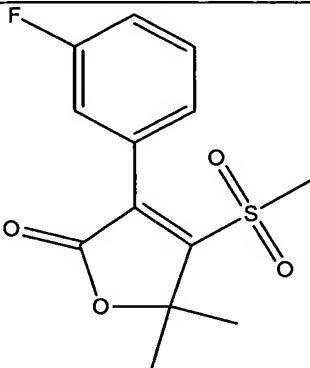
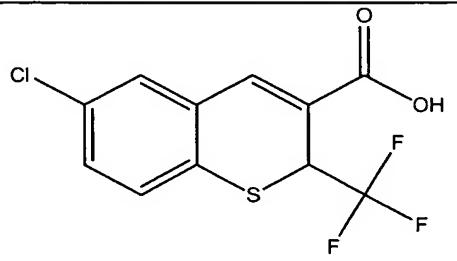
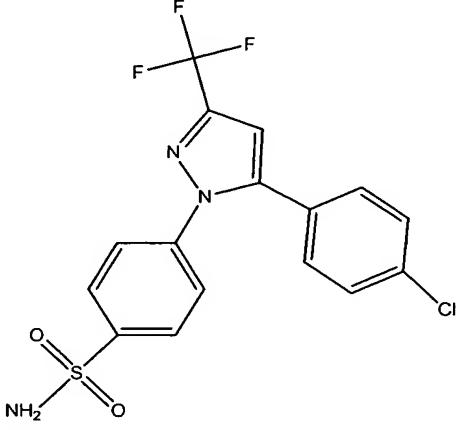
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-184	 <p>1-[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>
B-185	 <p>1-[2-(2,3-difluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>
B-186	 <p>4-[2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-187	 <p>1-[2-(3-chloro-4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzene;</p>
B-188	 <p>4-[2-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-189	 <p>4-[2-(2-methylpyridin-5-yl)cyclopenten-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

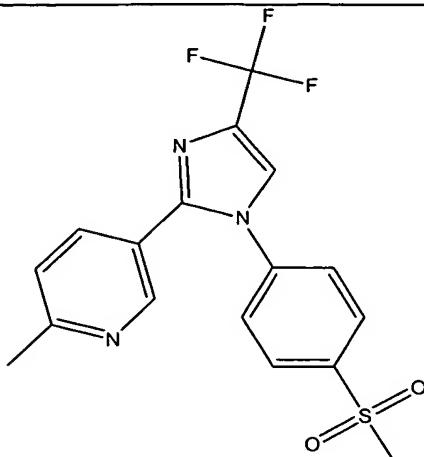
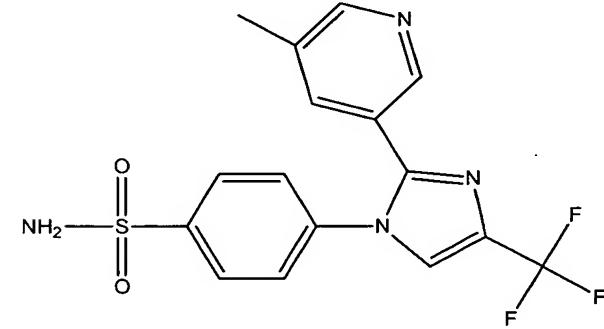
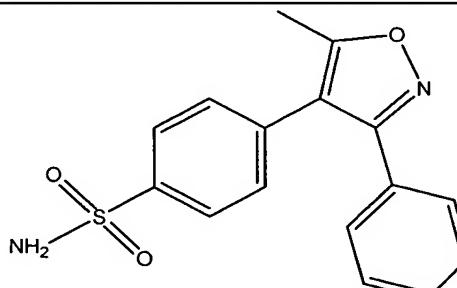
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-190	 <p>ethyl 2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazol-2-yl]-2-benzyl-acetate;</p>
B-191	 <p>2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazol-2-yl]acetic acid;</p>
B-192	 <p>2-(tert-butyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazole;</p>

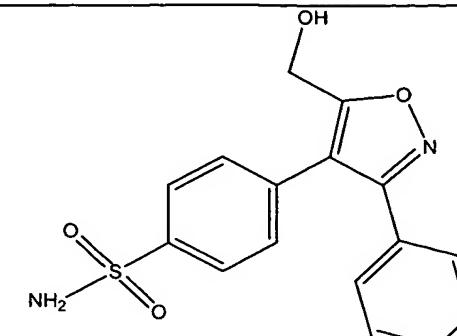
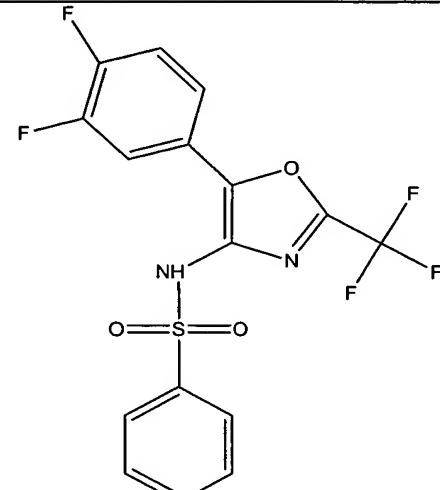
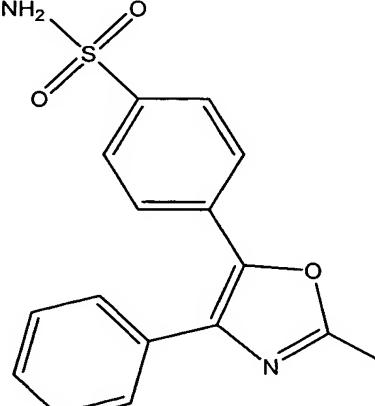
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-193	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-phenyloxazole;</p>
B-194	 <p>4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]oxazole;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-195	<p>4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-4-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-196	<p>6-chloro-7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-197	<p>6-chloro-8-methyl-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>

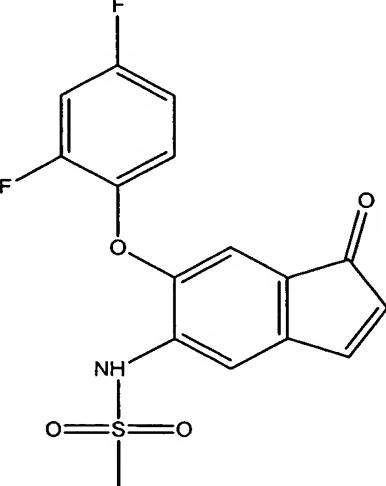
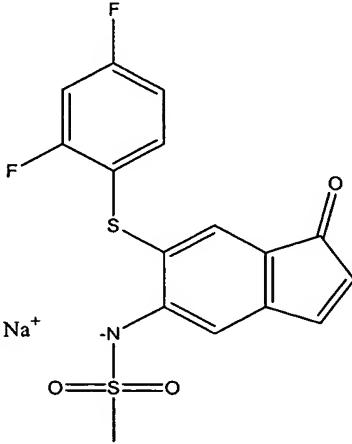
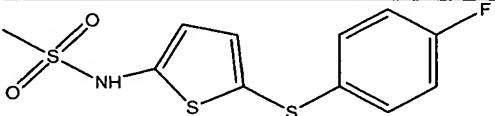
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-198	 <p>5,5-dimethyl-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-4-methylsulfonyl-2(5H)-furanone;</p>
B-199	 <p>6-chloro-2-trifluoromethyl-2H-1-benzothiopyran-3-carboxylic acid;</p>
B-200	 <p>4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

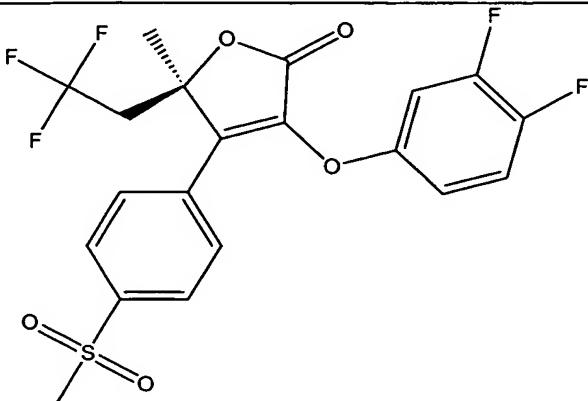
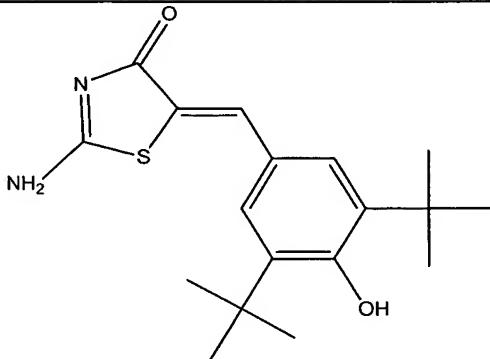
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-201	<p>4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-202	<p>4-[5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(difluoromethyl)-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-203	<p>3-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine;</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-204	 <p>2-methyl-5-[1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-4-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl]pyridine;</p>
B-205	 <p>4-[2-(5-methylpyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-imidazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-206	 <p>4-[5-methyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

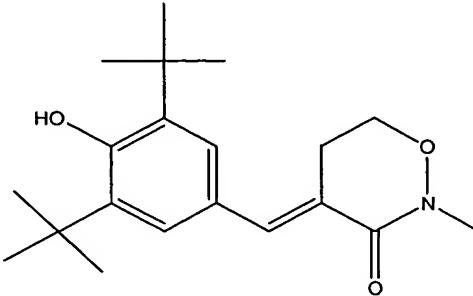
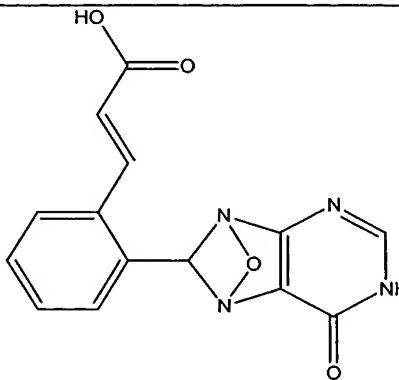
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-207	 <p>4-[5-hydroxymethyl-3-phenylisoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-208	 <p>[2-trifluoromethyl-5-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-209	 <p>4-[2-methyl-4-phenyl-5-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>

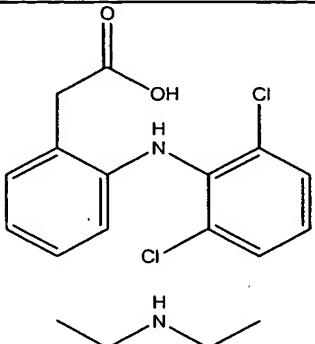
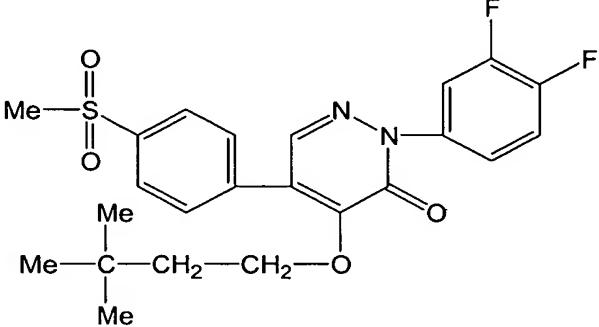
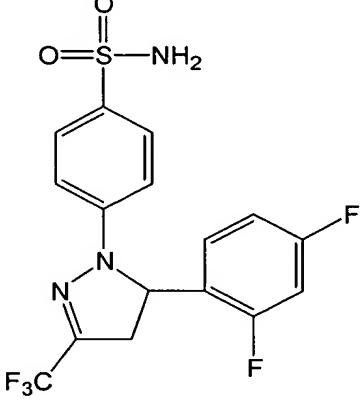
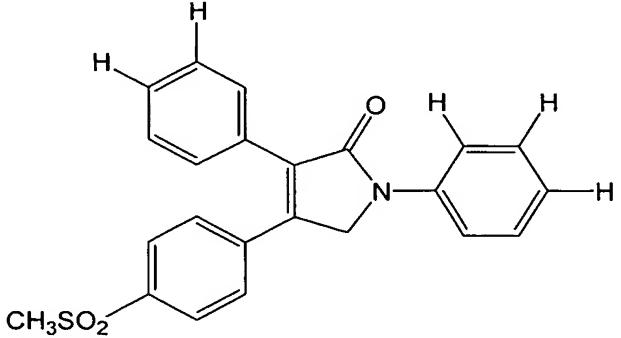
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-210	<p>4-[5-(2-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-trifluoromethyl-4-oxazolyl]benzenesulfonamide;</p>
B-211	
B-212	<p><i>N</i>-(4-nitro-2-phenoxy-phenyl)-methanesulfonamide or Nimesulide</p>

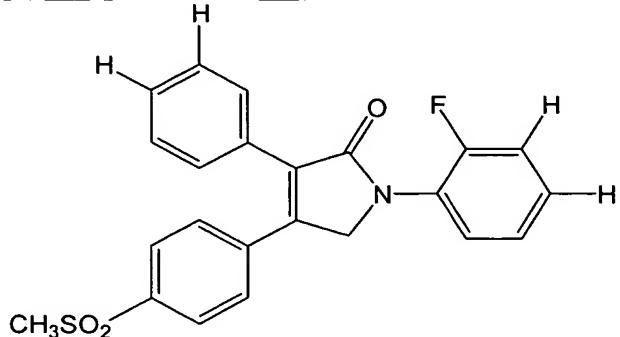
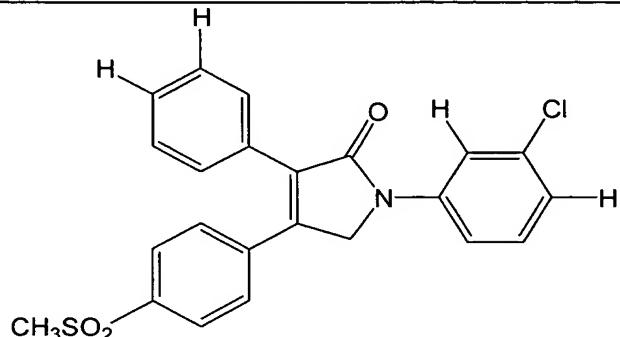
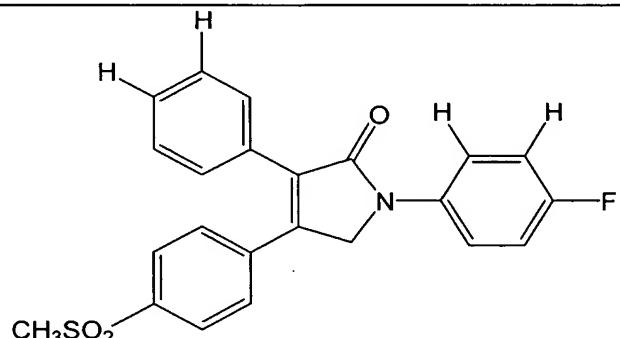
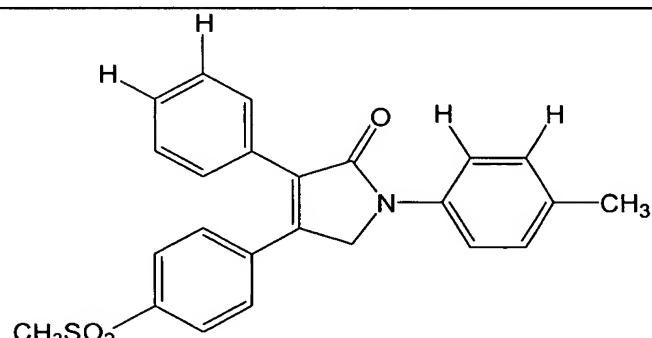
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-213	 <p data-bbox="616 783 1351 846">N-[6-(2,4-difluoro-phenoxy)-1-oxo-inden-5-yl]-methanesulfonamide or Flosulide</p>
B-214	 <p data-bbox="616 1326 1372 1389">N-[6-(2,4-difluoro-phenylsulfanyl)-1-oxo-1H-inden-5-yl]-methanesulfonamide, sodium salt, or L-745337</p>
B-215	 <p data-bbox="616 1558 1372 1586">N-[5-(4-fluoro-phenylsulfanyl)-thiophen-2-yl]-methanesulfonamide or RWJ-63556</p>

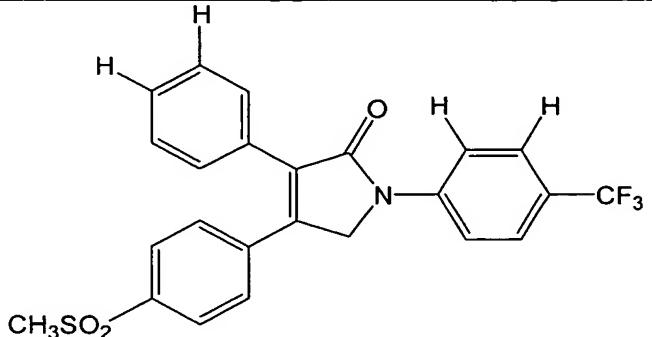
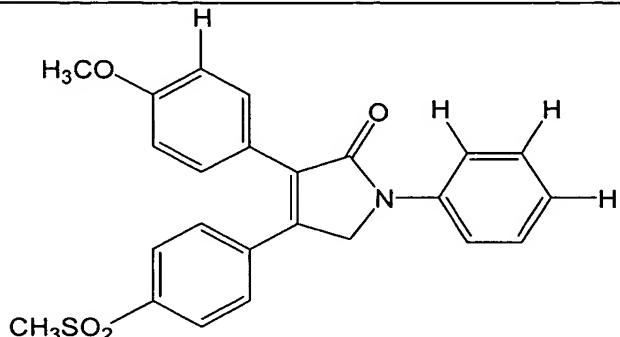
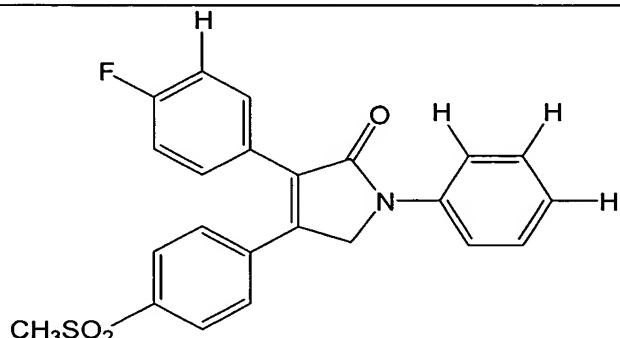
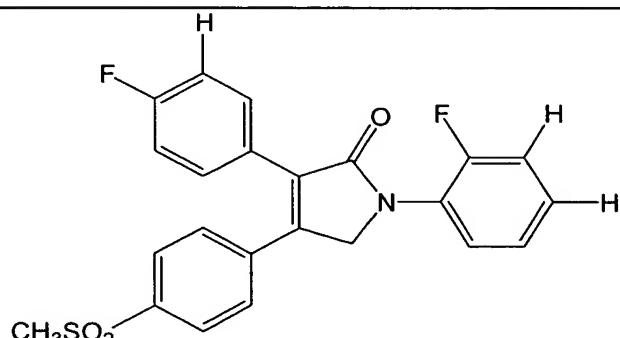
<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-216	 <p>3-(3,4-difluoro-phenoxy)-4-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-5-(2,2,2-trifluoro-ethyl)-5H-furan-2-one or L-784512</p>
B-217	 <p>(5Z)-2-amino-5-[[3,5-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-4(5H)-thiazolone or Darbufelone</p>
B-218	CS-502
B-219	LAS-34475
B-220	LAS-34555
B-221	S-33516

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-222	SD-8381
B-223	L-783003
B-224	<p>N-[3-(formylamino)-4-oxo-6-phenoxy-4H-1-benzopyran-7-yl]-methanesulfonamide or T614</p>
B-225	D-1367
B-226	L-748731
B-227	<p>(6aR,10aR)-3-(1,1-dimethylheptyl)-6a,7,10,10a-tetrahydro-1-hydroxy-6,6-dimethyl-1,6H-dibenzo[b,d]pyran-9-carboxylic acid or CT3</p>

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-228	CGP-28238
B-229	 <p>4-[[3,5-bis(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]dihydro-2-methyl-2H-1,2-oxazin-3(4H)-one or BF-389</p>
B-230	GR-253035
B-231	 <p>2-(6-dioxo-9H-purin-8-yl)cinnamic acid</p>
B-232	S-2474

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-233	
B-234	
B-235	
B-236	

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-237	
B-238	
B-239	
B-240	

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-241	
B-242	
B-243	
B-244	

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-245	
B-246	
B-247	
B-248	

<u>Compound Number</u>	<u>Structural Formula</u>
B-249	
B-250	
B-251	
B-252	

[0120] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor employed in the present invention can exist in tautomeric, geometric or stereoisomeric forms. Generally speaking, suitable cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors that are in tautomeric, geometric or

stereoisomeric forms are those compounds that inhibit cyclooxygenase-2 activity by about 25%, more typically by about 50%, and even more typically, by about 75% or more when present at a concentration of 100 μ M or less. The present invention contemplates all such compounds, including cis- and trans-geometric isomers, E- and Z-geometric isomers, R- and S-enantiomers, diastereomers, d-isomers, l-isomers, the racemic mixtures thereof and other mixtures thereof. Pharmaceutically acceptable salts of such tautomeric, geometric or stereoisomeric forms are also included within the invention. The terms "cis" and "trans", as used herein, denote a form of geometric isomerism in which two carbon atoms connected by a double bond will each have a hydrogen atom on the same side of the double bond ("cis") or on opposite sides of the double bond ("trans"). Some of the compounds described contain alkenyl groups, and are meant to include both cis and trans or "E" and "Z" geometric forms. Furthermore, some of the compounds described contain one or more stereocenters and are meant to include R, S, and mixtures or R and S forms for each stereocenter present.

[0121] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors utilized in the present invention may be in the form of free bases or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof. The term "pharmaceutically-acceptable salts" are salts commonly used to form alkali metal salts and to form addition salts of free acids or free bases. The nature of the salt may vary, provided that it is pharmaceutically acceptable. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of compounds for use in the present methods may be prepared from an inorganic acid or from an organic acid. Examples of such inorganic acids are hydrochloric, hydrobromic, hydroiodic, nitric, carbonic, sulfuric and phosphoric acid. Appropriate organic acids may be selected from aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, aromatic, araliphatic, heterocyclic, carboxylic and sulfonic classes of organic acids, examples of which are formic, acetic, propionic, succinic, glycolic, gluconic, lactic, malic, tartaric, citric, ascorbic, glucuronic, maleic, fumaric, pyruvic, aspartic, glutamic, benzoic, anthranilic, mesylic, 4-hydroxybenzoic, phenylacetic, mandelic, embonic (pamoic), methanesulfonic, ethanesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, pantothenic, 2-hydroxyethanesulfonic, toluenesulfonic, sulfanilic, cyclohexylaminosulfonic, stearic, algenic, hydroxybutyric, salicylic, galactaric and galacturonic acid. Suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable base addition salts of compounds of use in the present methods include metallic salts made from aluminum, calcium, lithium, magnesium, potassium, sodium and zinc or organic salts made from N,N'-dibenzylethylenediamine, chloroprocaine, choline, diethanolamine, ethylenediamine, meglumine (N-methylglucamine) and procaine. All of these salts may be prepared by

conventional means from the corresponding compound by reacting, for example, the appropriate acid or base with the compound of any Formula set forth herein.

[0122] The cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors of the present invention can be formulated into pharmaceutical compositions and administered by a number of different means that will deliver a therapeutically effective dose. Such compositions can be administered orally, parenterally, by inhalation spray, rectally, intradermally, transdermally, or topically in dosage unit formulations containing conventional nontoxic pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, adjuvants, and vehicles as desired. Topical administration may also involve the use of transdermal administration such as transdermal patches or iontophoresis devices. The term parenteral as used herein includes subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, or intrasternal injection, or infusion techniques. Formulation of drugs is discussed in, for example, Hoover, John E., *Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences*, Mack Publishing Co., Easton, Pennsylvania (1975), and Liberman, H.A. and Lachman, L., Eds., *Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms*, Marcel Decker, New York, N.Y. (1980).

[0123] Injectable preparations, for example, sterile injectable aqueous or oleaginous suspensions, can be formulated according to the known art using suitable dispersing or wetting agents and suspending agents. The sterile injectable preparation may also be a sterile injectable solution or suspension in a nontoxic parenterally acceptable diluent or solvent. Among the acceptable vehicles and solvents that may be employed are water, Ringer's solution, and isotonic sodium chloride solution. In addition, sterile, fixed oils are conventionally employed as a solvent or suspending medium. For this purpose, any bland fixed oil may be employed, including synthetic mono- or diglycerides. In addition, fatty acids such as oleic acid are useful in the preparation of injectables. Dimethyl acetamide, surfactants including ionic and non-ionic detergents, and polyethylene glycols can be used. Mixtures of solvents and wetting agents such as those discussed above are also useful.

[0124] Suppositories for rectal administration of the compounds discussed herein can be prepared by mixing the active agent with a suitable non-irritating excipient such as cocoa butter, synthetic mono-, di-, or triglycerides, fatty acids, or polyethylene glycols which are solid at ordinary temperatures but liquid at the rectal temperature, and which will therefore melt in the rectum and release the drug.

[0125] Solid dosage forms for oral administration may include capsules, tablets, pills, powders, and granules. In such solid dosage forms, the compounds are ordinarily combined with one or more adjuvants appropriate to the indicated route of administration. If administered *per os*, the compounds can be admixed with lactose, sucrose, starch powder,

cellulose esters of alkanoic acids, cellulose alkyl esters, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, magnesium oxide, sodium and calcium salts of phosphoric and sulfuric acids, gelatin, acacia gum, sodium alginate, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and/or polyvinyl alcohol, and then tableted or encapsulated for convenient administration. Such capsules or tablets can contain a controlled-release formulation as can be provided in a dispersion of active compound in hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose. In the case of capsules, tablets, and pills, the dosage forms can also comprise buffering agents such as sodium citrate, or magnesium or calcium carbonate or bicarbonate. Tablets and pills can additionally be prepared with enteric coatings.

[0126] For therapeutic purposes, formulations for parenteral administration can be in the form of aqueous or non-aqueous isotonic sterile injection solutions or suspensions. These solutions and suspensions can be prepared from sterile powders or granules having one or more of the carriers or diluents mentioned for use in the formulations for oral administration. The compounds can be dissolved in water, polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, ethanol, corn oil, cottonseed oil, peanut oil, sesame oil, benzyl alcohol, sodium chloride, and/or various buffers. Other adjuvants and modes of administration are well and widely known in the pharmaceutical art.

[0127] Liquid dosage forms for oral administration can include pharmaceutically acceptable emulsions, solutions, suspensions, syrups, and elixirs containing inert diluents commonly used in the art, such as water. Such compositions can also comprise adjuvants, such as wetting agents, emulsifying and suspending agents, and sweetening, flavoring, and perfuming agents.

[0128] The amount of active ingredient that can be combined with the carrier materials to produce a single dosage of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor will vary depending upon the patient and the particular mode of administration. In general, the pharmaceutical compositions may contain a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor in the range of about 0.1 to 2000 mg, more typically, in the range of about 0.5 to 500 mg and still more typically, between about 1 and 200 mg. A daily dose of about 0.01 to 100 mg/kg body weight, or more typically, between about 0.1 and about 50 mg/kg body weight and even more typically, from about 1 to 20 mg/kg body weight, may be appropriate. The daily dose is generally administered in one to about four doses per day.

[0129] In one embodiment, when the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor comprises rofecoxib, it is typical that the amount used is within a range of from about 0.15 to about 1.0 mg/day·kg, and even more typically, from about 0.18 to about 0.4 mg/day·kg.

[0130] In still another embodiment, when the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor comprises etoricoxib, it is typical that the amount used is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 5 mg/day·kg, and even more typically, from about 0.8 to about 4 mg/day·kg.

[0131] Further, when the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor comprises celecoxib, it is typical that the amount used is within a range of from about 1 to about 20 mg/day·kg, even more typically, from about 1.4 to about 8.6 mg/day·kg, and yet more typically, from about 2 to about 3 mg/day·kg.

[0132] When the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor comprises valdecoxib, it is typical that the amount used is within a range of from about 0.1 to about 5 mg/day·kg, and even more typically, from about 0.8 to about 4 mg/day·kg.

[0133] In a further embodiment, when the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor comprises parecoxib, it is typical that the amount used is within a range of from about 0.1 to about 5 mg/day·kg, and even more typically, from about 1 to about 3 mg/day·kg.

[0134] Those skilled in the art will appreciate that dosages may also be determined with guidance from Goodman & Goldman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics, Ninth Edition (1996), Appendix II, pp. 1707-1711 and from Goodman & Goldman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics, Tenth Edition (2001), Appendix II, pp. 475-493.

[0135] In another embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition containing a suitable cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor can also be administered locally at the site of vascular occlusion. For example and without limitation, a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor can be incorporated into a stent to be implanted into the vasculature. The stent can be coated with a degradable polymer into which the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor has been incorporated. As the polymer slowly degrades, it would release the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor into the area surrounding the stent. An example of a stent coated with a degradable polymer can be found in Strecker et al. (*Cardiovasc. Intervent. Radiol.*, 21:487-496, 1998). Alternatively, local administration can be achieved by the use of microspheres that are implanted into the vascular wall surrounding the occlusion. An example of the use of microspheres for administration of compounds to the vascular wall can be found in Valero et

al. (*J. Cardiovasc. Pharmacol.* 31:513-519, 1998). Also included are catheter-based local delivery systems. Non-limiting examples of catheter-based local delivery systems include hydrophilic-coated catheter balloons that absorb the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor and then release it when pressed against the vessel wall, and fenestrated balloon catheters that use a high velocity jet to spray the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor against the vessel wall and thus embed it in the vessel wall

[0136] The timing of the administration of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor can also vary. For example, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor can be administered beginning at a time prior to the vaso-occlusive event, at the time of the vaso-occlusive event, or at a time after the vaso-occlusive event. Administration can be by a single dose, or more preferably the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is given over an extended period. It is preferred that administration of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor extend for a period after the vaso-occlusive event. In one embodiment, administration is continued for six months following the vaso-occlusive event. In other embodiments, administration of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is continued for 1 week, 2 weeks, 1 month, 3 months, 9 months, or one year after the vaso-occlusive event. In one embodiment, administration of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor is continued throughout the life of the subject following the vaso-occlusive event.

Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors

[0137] In addition to a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor, the combination of the invention also comprises a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof. Generally speaking, without being bound by any particular theory, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor substantially inhibits platelet activation by reducing serotonin release from platelets. As used herein the term "platelet activation" includes a platelet mediated event or reaction that results in the formation of a partial or complete thrombus. These platelet mediated events or reactions include: platelet aggregation, platelet adhesion, platelet agglutination, platelet release reactions (e.g. osteonectin), expression of platelet external receptors (e.g. GPIIb/IIIa), platelet interaction with one or more other blood components (e.g. fibrinogen) or cells (e.g. leukocytes).

[0138] A number of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors or an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug thereof may be employed in the present invention to the extent that it substantially inhibits platelet activation. In one embodiment,

the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is citalopram (marketed under the trademark Celexa® by Forest Laboratories, Parke-Davis, Inc). In another embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is fluoxetine (marketed under the trademark Prozac® by Eli Lilly and Company). In still another embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is fluvoxamine (marketed under the trademark Luvox® by Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc.). In yet another embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is paroxetine (marketed under the trademark Paxil® by SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Inc.). In a further embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is escitalopram oxalate (marketed under the trademark Lexapro® by Forest Laboratories, Parke-Davis, Inc). In still another embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is sertraline (marketed under the trademark Zoloft® by Pfizer, Inc.).

[0139] It is also contemplated that a metabolite of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor may be used in the practice of the invention. Suitable metabolites of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors that may be employed in the current invention include compounds that substantially inhibit platelet activation. By way of example, in one embodiment, the metabolite is norfluoxetine, which is an active metabolite of fluoxetine. By way of further example, in another embodiment, the metabolite is N-demethylsertraline, which is an active metabolite of sertraline.

[0140] Generally speaking, the pharmacokinetics of the particular agent to be administered will dictate the most preferred method of administration and dosing regimen. The selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor can be administered as a pharmaceutical composition with or without a carrier. The terms "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" or a "carrier" refer to any generally acceptable excipient or drug delivery composition that is relatively inert and non-toxic. Exemplary carriers include sterile water, salt solutions (such as Ringer's solution), alcohols, gelatin, talc, viscous paraffin, fatty acid esters, hydroxymethylcellulose, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, calcium carbonate, carbohydrates (such as lactose, sucrose, dextrose, mannose, albumin, starch, cellulose, silica gel, polyethylene glycol (PEG), dried skim milk, rice flour, magnesium stearate, and the like. Suitable formulations and additional carriers are described in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, (17.sup.th Ed., Mack Pub. Co., Easton, Pa.). Such preparations can be sterilized and, if desired, mixed with auxiliary agents, e.g., lubricants, preservatives, stabilizers, wetting agents, emulsifiers, salts for influencing osmotic pressure, buffers, coloring, preservatives and/or aromatic substances and the like which do not deleteriously react with the active compounds. Typical

preservatives can include, potassium sorbate, sodium metabisulfite, methyl paraben, propyl paraben, thimerosal, etc. The compositions can also be combined where desired with other active substances, e.g., enzyme inhibitors, to reduce metabolic degradation.

[0141] Moreover, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor can be a liquid solution, suspension, emulsion, tablet, pill, capsule, sustained release formulation, or powder. The method of administration can dictate how the composition will be formulated. For example, the composition can be formulated as a suppository, with traditional binders and carriers such as triglycerides. Oral formulation can include standard carriers such as pharmaceutical grades of mannitol, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, sodium saccharine, cellulose, or magnesium carbonate.

[0142] In another embodiment, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor can be administered intravenously, parenterally, intramuscular, subcutaneously, orally, nasally, topically, by inhalation, by implant, by injection, or by suppository. For enteral or mucosal application (including via oral and nasal mucosa), particularly suitable are tablets, liquids, drops, suppositories or capsules. A syrup, elixir or the like can be used wherein a sweetened vehicle is employed. Liposomes, microspheres, and microcapsules are available and can be used. Pulmonary administration can be accomplished, for example, using any of various delivery devices known in the art such as an inhaler. See, e.g. S. P. Newman (1984) in *Aerosols and the Lung*, Clarke and Davis (eds.), Butterworths, London, England, pp. 197-224; PCT Publication No. WO 92/16192; PCT Publication No. WO 91/08760. For parenteral application, particularly suitable are injectable, sterile solutions, preferably oily or aqueous solutions, as well as suspensions, emulsions, or implants, including suppositories. In particular, carriers for parenteral administration include aqueous solutions of dextrose, saline, pure water, ethanol, glycerol, propylene glycol, peanut oil, sesame oil, polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block polymers, and the like.

[0143] The actual effective amounts of compound or drug can and will vary according to the specific composition being utilized, the mode of administration and the age, weight and condition of the subject. By way of example, as used herein, an effective amount of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is an amount that achieves the desired degree of platelet activation inhibition. Dosages for a particular individual subject can be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art using conventional considerations. But in general, the amount of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor will be between about 10 to about 2500 milligrams per day. The daily dose can be administered in one to four doses per day.

[0144] In one embodiment, when the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor comprises sertraline, typically the amount administered is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 200 milligrams per day, and even more typically, between about 50 to about 100 milligrams per day.

[0145] In another embodiment, when the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is fluvoxamine, typically the amount administered is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 500 milligrams per day, and even more typically, between about 100 to about 300 milligrams per day.

[0146] In yet another embodiment, when the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is fluoxetine, generally the amount administered is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 150 milligrams per day, and even more typically, between about 20 to about 80 milligrams per day.

[0147] In still another embodiment, when the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is paroxetine, typically the amount administered is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 100 milligrams per day, and even more typically, between about 10 to about 50 milligrams per day.

[0148] In yet a further embodiment, when the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is citalopram, typically the amount administered is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 100 milligrams per day, and even more typically, between about 20 to about 40 milligrams per day.

[0149] In still another embodiment, when the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is escitalopram oxalate, typically the amount administered is within a range of from about 0.5 to about 50 milligrams per day, and even more typically, between about 5 to about 20 milligrams per day.

[0150] The timing of the administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor before or after the onset of the vaso-occlusive event will vary considerably depending upon the particular vaso-occlusive event being treated. Generally speaking, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is preferably administered to the subject immediately after the onset of the vaso-occlusive event. By way of example, if the vaso-occlusive event is an acute myocardial infarction (AMI), the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is typically administered to the subject within 24 hours of the onset of symptoms of the AMI. More typically, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is administered within about 12 hours of the onset of symptoms of the AMI. Even more typically, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is administered within about 6 hours of the onset of symptoms of the AMI. By way

of further example, if the vaso-occlusive event is an acute ischemic stroke, typically the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is administered within about 4 hours after the onset of symptoms of the acute ischemic stroke. Even more typically, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is administered within about 2 hours after the onset of the symptoms of the acute ischemic stroke. Still more typically, the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor is administered within about 1 hour after the onset of the symptoms of the acute ischemic stroke.

[0151] Moreover, the timing of the administration of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor in relation to the administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor may also vary from subject to subject and depend upon the vaso-occlusive event being treated. In one embodiment of the invention, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor may be administered substantially simultaneously, meaning that both agents may be administered to the subject at approximately the same time. For example, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof is administered during a continuous period beginning on the same day as the beginning of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor and extending to a period after the end of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor. Alternatively, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor may be administered sequentially, meaning that they are administered at separate times during separate treatments. In one embodiment, for example, the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof is administered during a continuous period beginning prior to administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor and ending after administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor. Of course, it is also possible that the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor may be administered either more or less frequently than the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor. One skilled in the art can readily design suitable treatment regimens for a particular subject depending on the particular vaso-occlusive event being treated. Moreover, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that it is possible, and perhaps desirable, to combine various times and methods of administration in the practice of the present invention.

Combination Therapies

[0152] Generally speaking, it is contemplated that the composition employed in the practice of the invention may include one or more of any of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors detailed above in combination with one or more of any of the selective

serotonin reuptake inhibitors detailed above. By way of a non limiting example, Table 4 details a number of suitable combinations that are useful in the methods and compositions of the current invention. The combination may also include an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug of any of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors or selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors listed in Table 4.

TABLE NO. 4

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
a compound having formula I	citalopram
a compound having formula I	fluoxetine
a compound having formula I	fluvoxamine
a compound having formula I	paroxetine
a compound having formula I	escitalopram oxalate
a compound having formula I	sertraline
a compound having formula I	norfluoxetine
a compound having formula I	N-demethylsertraline
a compound having formula II	citalopram
a compound having formula II	fluoxetine
a compound having formula II	fluvoxamine
a compound having formula II	paroxetine
a compound having formula II	escitalopram oxalate
a compound having formula II	sertraline
a compound having formula II	norfluoxetine
a compound having formula II	N-demethylsertraline
a compound having formula III	citalopram
a compound having formula III	fluoxetine
a compound having formula III	fluvoxamine

TABLE NO. 4

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
a compound having formula III	paroxetine
a compound having formula III	escitalopram oxalate
a compound having formula III	sertraline
a compound having formula III	norfluoxetine
a compound having formula III	N-demethylsertraline
a compound having formula IV	citalopram
a compound having formula IV	fluoxetine
a compound having formula IV	fluvoxamine
a compound having formula IV	paroxetine
a compound having formula IV	escitalopram oxalate
a compound having formula IV	sertraline
a compound having formula IV	norfluoxetine
a compound having formula IV	citalopram
a compound having formula V	citalopram
a compound having formula V	fluoxetine
a compound having formula V	fluvoxamine
a compound having formula V	paroxetine
a compound having formula V	escitalopram oxalate
a compound having formula V	sertraline
a compound having formula V	norfluoxetine
a compound having formula V	N-demethylsertraline

[0153] By way of further example, Table 5 details a number of suitable combinations that may be employed in the methods and compositions of the present invention. The combination may also include an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt,

ester, or prodrug of any of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors or selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors listed in Table 5.

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
<p>a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252</p>	citalopram

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
<p>a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252</p>	fluoxetine

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
<p>a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252</p>	fluvoxamine

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252	paroxetine

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252	escitalopram oxalate

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
<p>a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252</p>	sertraline

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252	norfluoxetine

TABLE NO. 5

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
a compound selected from the group consisting of B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8, B-9, B-10, B-11, B-12, B-13, B-14, B-15, B-16, B-17, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-22, B-23, B-24, B-25, B-26, B-27, B-28, B-29, B-30, B-31, B-32, B-33, B-34, B-35, B-36, B-37, B-38, B-39, B-40, B-41, B-42, B-43, B-44, B-45, B-46, B-47, B-48, B-49, B-50, B-51, B-52, B-53, B-54, B-55, B-56, B-57, B-58, B-59, B-60, B-61, B-62, B-63, B-64, B-65, B-66, B-67, B-68, B-69, B-70, B-71, B-72, B-73, B-74, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-78, B-79, B-80, B-81, B-82, B-83, B-84, B-85, B-86, B-87, B-88, B-89, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-93, B-94, B-95, B-96, B-97, B-98, B-99, B-100, B-101, B-102, B-103, B-104, B-105, B-106, B-107, B-108, B-109, B-110, B-111, B-112, B-113, B-114, B-115, B-116, B-117, B-118, B-119, B-120, B-121, B-122, B-123, B-124, B-125, B-126, B-127, B-128, B-129, B-130, B-131, B-132, B-133, B-134, B-135, B-136, B-137, B-138, B-139, B-140, B-141, B-142, B-143, B-144, B-145, B-146, B-147, B-148, B-149, B-150, B-151, B-152, B-153, B-154, B-155, B-156, B-157, B-158, B-159, B-160, B-161, B-162, B-163, B-164, B-165, B-166, B-167, B-168, B-169, B-170, B-171, B-172, B-173, B-174, B-175, B-176, B-177, B-178, B-179, B-180, B-181, B-182, B-183, B-184, B-185, B-186, B-187, B-188, B-189, B-190, B-191, B-192, B-193, B-194, B-195, B-196, B-197, B-198, B-199, B-200, B-201, B-202, B-203, B-204, B-205, B-206, B-207, B-208, B-209, B-210, B-211, B-212, B-213, B-214, B-215, B-216, B-217, B-218, B-219, B-220, B-221, B-222, B-223, B-224, B-225, B-226, B-227, B-228, B-229, B-230, B-231, B-232, B-233, B-234, B-235, B-236, B-237, B-238, B-239, B-240, B-241, B-242, B-243, B-244, B-245, B-246, B-247, B-248, B-249, B-250, B-251, B-252	N-demethylsertraline

[0154] By way of yet further example, Table 6 details additional suitable combinations that may be employed in the methods and compositions of the current invention. The combination may also include an isomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, or prodrug of any of the cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitors or selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors listed in Table 6.

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
celecoxib	citalopram
celecoxib	fluoxetine
celecoxib	fluvoxamine
celecoxib	paroxetine
celecoxib	escitalopram oxalate
celecoxib	sertraline
celecoxib	norfluoxetine
ceracoxib	N-demethylsertraline
deracoxib	citalopram
deracoxib	fluoxetine
deracoxib	fluvoxamine
deracoxib	paroxetine
deracoxib	escitalopram oxalate
deracoxib	sertraline
deracoxib	norfluoxetine
deracoxib	N-demethylsertraline
valdecoxib	citalopram
valdecoxib	fluoxetine
valdecoxib	fluvoxamine
valdecoxib	paroxetine
valdecoxib	escitalopram oxalate
valdecoxib	sertraline
valdecoxib	norfluoxetine

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
valdecoxib	N-demethylsertraline
rofecoxib	citalopram
rofecoxib	fluoxetine
rofecoxib	fluvoxamine
rofecoxib	paroxetine
rofecoxib	escitalopram oxalate
rofecoxib	sertraline
rofecoxib	norfluoxetine
rofecoxib	N-demethylsertraline
etoricoxib	citalopram
etoricoxib	fluoxetine
etoricoxib	fluvoxamine
etoricoxib	paroxetine
etoricoxib	escitalopram oxalate
etoricoxib	sertraline
etoricoxib	norfluoxetine
etoricoxib	N-demethylsertraline
meloxicam	citalopram
meloxicam	fluoxetine
meloxicam	fluvoxamine
meloxicam	paroxetine
meloxicam	escitalopram oxalate
meloxicam	sertraline

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
meloxicam	norfluoxetine
meloxicam	N-demethylsertraline
parecoxib	citalopram
parecoxib	fluoxetine
parecoxib	fluvoxamine
parecoxib	paroxetine
parecoxib	escitalopram oxalate
parecoxib	sertraline
parecoxib	norfluoxetine
parecoxib	N-demethylsertraline
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	citalopram
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	fluoxetine
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	fluvoxamine
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	paroxetine
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	escitalopram oxalate
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	sertraline
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	norfluoxetine
4-(4-cyclohexyl-2-methyloxazol-5-yl)-2-fluorobenzenesulfonamide	N-demethylsertraline
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	citalopram

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	fluoxetine
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	fluvoxamine
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	paroxetine
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	escitalopram oxalate
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	sertraline
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	norfluoxetine
2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one	N-demethylsertraline
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	citalopram
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	fluoxetine
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	fluvoxamine
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	paroxetine
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	escitalopram oxalate
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	sertraline
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	norfluoxetine
N-[2-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-nitrophenyl]methanesulfonamide	N-demethylsertraline

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	citalopram
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	fluoxetine
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	fluvoxamine
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	paroxetine
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	escitalopram oxalate
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	sertraline
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	norfluoxetine
2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbutoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3(2H)-pyridazinone	N-demethylsertraline
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	citalopram
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	fluoxetine
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	fluvoxamine
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	paroxetine

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	escitalopram oxalate
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	sertraline
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	norfluoxetine
2-[(2,4-dichloro-6-methylphenyl)amino]-5-ethyl-benzeneacetic acid	N-demethylsertraline
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	citalopram
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	fluoxetine
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	fluvoxamine
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	paroxetine
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	escitalopram oxalate
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	sertraline
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	norfluoxetine
(3Z)-3-[(4-chlorophenyl)[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]dihydro-2(3H)-furanone	N-demethylsertraline

TABLE NO. 6

Cyclooxygenase-2 Selective Inhibitor	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	citalopram
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	fluoxetine
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	fluvoxamine
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	paroxetine
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	escitalopram oxalate
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	sertraline
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	norfluoxetine
(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid	N-demethylsertraline
lumiracoxib	citalopram
lumiracoxib	fluoxetine
lumiracoxib	fluvoxamine
lumiracoxib	paroxetine
lumiracoxib	escitalopram oxalate
lumiracoxib	sertraline
lumiracoxib	norfluoxetine
lumiracoxib	N-demethylsertraline

Diagnosis of a Vaso-occlusion

[0155] One aspect of the invention encompasses diagnosing a subject in need of treatment or prevention for a vaso-occlusive event. A number of suitable methods for diagnosing a vaso-occlusion may be used in the practice of the invention. In one such

method, ultrasound may be employed. This method examines the blood flow in the major arteries and veins in the arms and legs with the use of ultrasound (high-frequency sound waves). In one embodiment, the test may combine Doppler® ultrasonography, which uses audio measurements to "hear" and measure the blood flow and duplex ultrasonography, which provides a visual image. In an alternative embodiment, the test may utilize multifrequency ultrasound or multifrequency transcranial Doppler® (MTCD) ultrasound.

[0156] Another method that may be employed encompasses injection of the subject with a compound that can be imaged. In one alternative of this embodiment, a small amount of radioactive material is injected into the subject and then standard techniques that rely on monitoring blood flow to detect a blockage, such as magnetic resonance direct thrombus imaging (MRDTI), may be utilized to image the vaso-occlusion. In an alternative embodiment, ThromboView® (commercially available from Agenix Limited) uses a clot-binding monoclonal antibody attached to a radiolabel. In addition to the methods identified herein, a number of other suitable methods known in the art for diagnosis of vaso-occlusive events may be utilized.

Indications to be Treated or Prevented

[0157] The combination comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor and a therapeutically effective amount of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor may be employed to treat or prevent a number of vaso-occlusive events or related disorders.

[0158] Typical disorders or diseases benefited by the combination of the invention include vaso-occlusive events such as myocardial infarction, stroke, transient ischemic attacks including myocardial infarction and stroke, amaurosis fugax, aortic stenosis, cardiac stenosis, carotid artery stenosis, coronary stenosis and pulmonary stenosis. Stenosis is the narrowing or stricture of a duct or canal. Coronary stenosis is the narrowing or stricture of a coronary artery. Cardiac stenosis is a narrowing or diminution of any heart passage or cavity. Pulmonary stenosis is the narrowing of the opening between the pulmonary artery and the right ventricle. Aortic stenosis is narrowing of the aortic orifice of the heart or of the aorta itself.

[0159] In some aspects, the invention provides treatment for subjects who are at risk of a vaso-occlusive event. These subjects may have had a previous vaso-occlusive event. The invention embraces the treatment of subjects prior to a vaso-occlusive event, at a time of

a vaso-occlusive event and following a vaso-occlusive event. Thus, as used herein, the "treatment" of a subject is intended to embrace both prophylactic and therapeutic treatment, and can be used either to limit or to eliminate altogether the symptoms or the occurrence of a vaso-occlusive event. In one embodiment, the subject may exhibit symptoms of a vaso-occlusive event.

[0160] The invention also embraces the treatment of a subject that has an abnormally elevated risk of a vaso-occlusive event such as a thrombotic event. The subject may have vascular disease. The vascular disease may be selected from the group consisting of arteriosclerosis, cardiovascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, renovascular disease, mesenteric vascular disease, pulmonary vascular disease, ocular vascular disease or peripheral vascular disease.

[0161] Typically, however, the subject has had a primary vaso-occlusive event, such as a primary thrombotic event. The combination of the invention may be administered to a subject following a primary vaso-occlusive event. By way of example, the thrombotic event may be selected from the group consisting of arterial thrombosis, coronary thrombosis, heart valve thrombosis, coronary stenosis, carotid artery stenosis, stent thrombosis and graft thrombosis. The vaso-occlusive event also includes disorders or conditions that may arise from a thrombotic event or a thromboembolic event and in this regard a vaso-occlusive event includes but is not limited to myocardial infarction, stroke and transient ischemic attack. In an important embodiment, the vaso-occlusive event is myocardial infarction. In one embodiment, the subject has had a myocardial infarction. A subject who has hypercholesterolemia, hypertension or atherosclerosis also can be treated by the methods of the invention.

[0162] In yet another embodiment, the subject is one who will undergo an elective surgical procedure. The combination of the invention may be administered to such a subject prior to the elective surgical procedure. The method of the invention can also be directed towards a subject who has undergone a surgical procedure. As used herein, a "surgical procedure" is meant to embrace those procedures that have been classically regarded as surgical procedures as well as interventional cardiology procedures such as arteriography, angiography, angioplasty, carotid endarterectomy and stenting. Thus, the surgical procedure, whether elective or not, can be selected from the group consisting of coronary angiography, coronary stent placement, coronary by-pass surgery, carotid artery procedure, peripheral stent placement, vascular grafting, thrombectomy, peripheral vascular surgery, vascular surgery,

organ transplant, artificial heart transplant, vascular angioplasty, vascular laser therapy, vascular replacement, prosthetic valve replacement and vascular stenting.

[0163] In addition to a cyclooxygenase-2 selective inhibitor and a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor, the combination of the invention may also include any agent that ameliorates the effect of a vaso-occlusive event. In one embodiment, the agent is an anticoagulant including thrombin inhibitors such as heparin and Factor Xa inhibitors such as warafin. In an additional embodiment, the agent is an anti-platelet inhibitor such as a GP IIb/IIIa inhibitor including abciximab, eptifibatide, and tirofiban. In an alternative of this embodiment, the platelet aggregation inhibitor is a 5-HT-2 antagonists such as nefazodone, ketanserin, AT-1015 or any combination thereof. In yet another embodiment, the anti-platelet inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of aspirin, dipyridamole, ticlopidine, and clopidogrel. Additional agents include but are not limited to, HMG-CoA synthase inhibitors; squalene epoxidase inhibitors; squalene synthetase inhibitors (also known as squalene synthase inhibitors), acyl-coenzyme A: cholesterol acyltransferase (ACAT) inhibitors; probucol; niacin; fibrates such as clofibrate, fenofibrate, and gemfibrozil; cholesterol absorption inhibitors; bile acid sequestrants; LDL (low density lipoprotein) receptor inducers; vitamin B₆ (also known as pyridoxine) and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof such as the HCl salt; vitamin B₁₂ (also known as cyanocobalamin); beta.-adrenergic receptor blockers; folic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester thereof such as the sodium salt and the methylglucamine salt; and anti-oxidant vitamins such as vitamin C and E and beta carotene.

EXAMPLES

[0164] A combination therapy of a COX-2 selective inhibitor and a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor for the treatment or prevention of a vaso-occlusive event or a related disorder in a subject can be evaluated as described in the following tests.

EXAMPLE 1-Evaluation of COX-1 and COX-2 activity *in vitro*

[0165] The COX-2 inhibitors suitable for use in this invention exhibit selective inhibition of COX-2 over COX-1 when tested *in vitro* according to the following activity assays.

Preparation of recombinant COX baculoviruses

[0166] Recombinant COX-1 and COX-2 are prepared as described by Gierse et al, [J. Biochem., 305, 479-84 (1995)]. A 2.0 kb fragment containing the coding region of either human or murine COX-1 or human or murine COX-2 is cloned into a BamH1 site of the baculovirus transfer vector pVL1393 (Invitrogen) to generate the baculovirus transfer vectors for COX-1 and COX-2 in a manner similar to the method of D.R. O'Reilly et al (*Baculovirus Expression Vectors: A Laboratory Manual* (1992)). Recombinant baculoviruses are isolated by transfecting 4 μ g of baculovirus transfer vector DNA into SF9 insect cells (2×10^8) along with 200 ng of linearized baculovirus plasmid DNA by the calcium phosphate method. See M.D. Summers and G.E. Smith, *A Manual of Methods for Baculovirus Vectors and Insect Cell Culture Procedures*, Texas Agric. Exp. Station Bull. 1555 (1987). Recombinant viruses are purified by three rounds of plaque purification and high titer (10^7 - 10^8 pfu/mL) stocks of virus are prepared. For large scale production, SF9 insect cells are infected in 10 liter fermentors (0.5×10^6 /mL) with the recombinant baculovirus stock such that the multiplicity of infection is 0.1. After 72 hours the cells are centrifuged and the cell pellet is homogenized in Tris/Sucrose (50 mM: 25%, pH 8.0) containing 1% 3-[(3-cholamidopropyl)-dimethylammonio]-1-propanesulfonate (CHAPS). The homogenate is centrifuged at 10,000xG for 30 minutes, and the resultant supernatant is stored at -80°C before being assayed for COX activity.

Assay for COX-1 and COX-2 activity

[0167] COX activity is assayed as PGE2 formed/ μ g protein/time using an ELISA to detect the prostaglandin released. CHAPS-solubilized insect cell membranes containing the appropriate COX enzyme are incubated in a potassium phosphate buffer (50 mM, pH 8.0) containing epinephrine, phenol, and heme with the addition of arachidonic acid (10 μ M). Compounds are pre-incubated with the enzyme for 10-20 minutes prior to the addition of arachidonic acid. Any reaction between the arachidonic acid and the enzyme is stopped after ten minutes at 37°C by transferring 40 μ l of reaction mix into 160 μ l ELISA buffer and 25 μ M indomethacin. The PGE2 formed is measured by standard ELISA technology (Cayman Chemical).

Fast assay for COX-1 and COX-2 activity

[0168] COX activity is assayed as PGE2 formed/µg protein/time using an ELISA to detect the prostaglandin released. CHAPS-solubilized insect cell membranes containing the appropriate COX enzyme are incubated in a potassium phosphate buffer (0.05 M Potassium phosphate, pH 7.5, 2 µM phenol, 1 µM heme, 300 µM epinephrine) with the addition of 20 µl of 100 µM arachidonic acid (10 µM). Compounds are pre-incubated with the enzyme for 10 minutes at 25 °C prior to the addition of arachidonic acid. Any reaction between the arachidonic acid and the enzyme is stopped after two minutes at 37 °C by transferring 40 µl of reaction mix into 160 µl ELISA buffer and 25 µM indomethacin. Indomethacin, a non-selective COX-2/COX-1 inhibitor, may be utilized as a positive control. The PGE₂ formed is typically measured by standard ELISA technology utilizing a PGE2 specific antibody, available from a number of commercial sources.

[0169] Each compound to be tested may be individually dissolved in 2 ml of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) for bioassay testing to determine the COX-1 and COX-2 inhibitory effects of each particular compound. Potency is typically expressed by the IC₅₀ value expressed as g compound/ml solvent resulting in a 50% inhibition of PGE2 production. Selective inhibition of COX-2 may be determined by the IC₅₀ ratio of COX-1/COX-2.

[0170] By way of example, a primary screen may be performed in order to determine particular compounds that inhibit COX-2 at a concentration of 10 ug/ml. The compound may then be subjected to a confirmation assay to determine the extent of COX-2 inhibition at three different concentrations (e.g., 10 ug/ml, 3.3 ug/ml and 1.1 ug/ml). After this screen, compounds can then be tested for their ability to inhibit COX-1 at a concentration of 10 ug/ml. With this assay, the percentage of COX inhibition compared to control can be determined, with a higher percentage indicating a greater degree of COX inhibition. In addition, the IC₅₀ value for COX-1 and COX-2 can also be determined for the tested compound. The selectivity for each compound may then be determined by the IC₅₀ ratio of COX-1/COX-2, as set-forth above.

EXAMPLE 2-Evaluation of Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors *in vitro*

[0171] Suitable selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors may be identified according to the following activity assay.

[0172] The serotonin transporter (5-HTT or SERT) is responsible for reuptake of 5-HT released in the synaptic cleft as wells as from the soma and/or dendrites of

serotonergic neurons in the brain. SERT is a target of antidepressant drugs, in particular selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs).

[0173] Described below is an assay that may be used to determine whether a test compound is capable of binding SERT and affecting serotonin reuptake. Transporter binding studies can be performed as described in, e.g., Bymaster et al., *Neuropsychopharmacology*, Vol. 27, No. 5, pp.699-711, 2002.

[0174] Membranes from HEK 293, MDCK, and HEK293 cell lines transfected with human 5-HT, NE and DA transporters, respectively, can be obtained commercially, e.g., from Receptor Biology, Inc. (Beltsville, MD). All assays are performed in triplicate in a final volume of 0.8 ml containing either a buffer consisting of 50 mM Tris Cl, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, and 5 mM KCl for 5-HT and NE transporters or 50 mM Tris Cl, pH 7.4, and 100 mM NaCl for the DA transporter. The radioligands for 5-HT, NE and DA human transporters are [³H]-paroxetine (0.2 nM, 25 Ci/mmol), [³H]-nisoxetine (1.0 nM, 86 Ci/mmol), and [³H]-WIN35,428 (1.0 nM, 86 Ci/mmol), respectively. Membranes equivalent to protein in amounts of 10.3 μ g, 16.9 μ g or 6.2 μ g, respectively, are used in the assay. After incubation at 37°C for 40 minutes for the 5-HT transporter and 25°C for 30 minutes for NE and DA transporters, the binding is terminated by rapid vacuum filtration over Whatman GF/B filters (presoaked in 0.5% polyethylenimine) and the filters are washed four times with cold 50 mM Tris Cl buffer, pH 7.4. The filters are then placed in vials containing liquid scintillation fluid and radioactivity is measured by liquid scintillation spectrometry. Non-specific binding is determined in separate samples with 1 μ M duloxetine, 10 μ M desipramine or 10 μ M nomifensine, for 5-HT, NE and DA transporters, respectively.

[0175] To be a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor, the test compound has to exhibit high affinity for SERT and low or moderate affinity for other neurotransmitter transporters, such as norepinephrine and dopamine transporters. Accordingly, to be considered a SSRI, a test compound has to exhibit a high affinity for SERT, and this affinity needs to be at least multiple fold higher than the affinity for norepinephrine and dopamine transporters. Based on the 5-HT, NE and DA affinities of a test compound determined as described above, a skilled artisan can readily determine whether a test compound satisfies these criteria.

EXAMPLE 3-Methods for Measuring Platelet Aggregation and Platelet Activation Markers

[0176] The following studies can be performed in human subjects or laboratory animal models, such as mice. Prior to the initiation of a clinical study involving human subjects, the study should be approved by the appropriate Human Subjects Committee and subjects should be informed about the study and give written consent prior to participation.

[0177] The combination therapy comprising a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) and a COX-2 inhibitor can be evaluated in comparison to a control treatment such as a placebo treatment, administration of a COX-2 inhibitor only, or administration of a SSRI inhibitor only. By way of example, a combination therapy may contain citalopram and celecoxib, fluoxetine and valdecoxib, fluvoxamine and rofecoxib, or paroxetine and celecoxib. It should be noted that these are only several examples, and that any of the SSRI inhibitors and COX-2 inhibitors detailed in the present invention, including the combinations set forth in Tables 4, 5, or 6 may be tested as a combination therapy. The dosages of a SSRI inhibitor and COX-2 inhibitor in a particular therapeutic combination may be readily determined by a skilled artisan conducting the study. The length of the study treatment will vary on a particular study and can also be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. By way of example, the combination therapy may be administered for 4 weeks. The SSRI inhibitor and COX-2 inhibitor can be administered by any route as described herein, but are preferably administered orally for human subjects.

[0178] Platelet activation can be determined by a number of tests available in the art. Several such tests are described below. In order to determine the effectiveness of the treatment, the state of platelet activation is evaluated at several time points during the study, such as before administering the combination treatment and once a week during treatment. The exemplary procedures for blood sampling and the analyses that can be used to monitor platelet aggregation are listed below.

Platelet Aggregation Study

[0179] Blood samples are collected from an antecubital vein via a 19-gauge needle into two plastic tubes. Each sample of free flowing blood is collected through a fresh venipuncture site distal to any intravenous catheters using a needle and Vacutainer hood into 7 cc Vacutainer tubes (one with CTAD (dipyridamole), and the other with 3.8% trisodium citrate). If blood is collected simultaneously for any other studies, it is preferable that the platelet sample be obtained second or third, but not first. If only the platelet sample is collected, the initial 2-3 cc of blood is discharged and then the vacutainer tube is filled. The

venipuncture is adequate if the tube fills within 15 seconds. All collections are performed by trained personnel.

[0180] After the blood samples for each subject have been collected into two Vacutainer tubes, they are immediately, but gently, inverted 3 to 5 times to ensure complete mixing of the anticoagulant. Tubes are not shaken. The Vacutainer tubes are filled to capacity, since excess anticoagulant can alter platelet function. Attention is paid to minimizing turbulence whenever possible. Small steps, such as slanting the needle in the Vacutainer to have the blood run down the side of tube instead of shooting all the way to the bottom, can result in significant improvement. These tubes are kept at room temperature and transferred directly to the laboratory personnel responsible for preparing the samples. The Vacutainer tubes are not chilled at any time.

[0181] Trisodium citrate (3.8%) and whole blood is immediately mixed in a 1:9 ratio, and then centrifuged at 1200 g for 2.5 minutes, to obtain platelet-rich plasma (PRP), which is kept at room temperature for use within 1 hour for platelet aggregation studies. Platelet count is determined in each PRP sample with a Coulter Counter ZM (Coulter Co., Hialeah, Fla.). Platelet numbers are adjusted to 3.50×10^8 /ml for aggregation with homologous platelet-poor plasma. PRP and whole blood aggregation tests are performed simultaneously. Whole blood is diluted 1:1 with the 0.5 ml PBS, and then swirled gently to mix. The cuvette with the stirring bar is placed in the incubation well and allowed to warm to 37°C for 5 minutes. Then the samples are transferred to the assay well. An electrode is placed in the sample cuvette. Platelet aggregation is stimulated with 5 μ M ADP, 1 μ g/ml collagen, and 0.75 mM arachidonic acid. All agonists are obtained, e.g., from Chronolog Corporation (Hawertown, Pa.). Platelet aggregation studies are performed using a Chrono-Log Whole Blood Lumi-Aggregometer (model 560-Ca). Platelet aggregability is expressed as the percentage of light transmittance change from baseline using platelet-poor plasma as a reference at the end of recording time for plasma samples, or as a change in electrical impedance for whole blood samples. Aggregation curves are recorded for 4 minutes and analyzed according to internationally established standards using Aggrolink® software.

[0182] Aggregation curves of subjects receiving a combination therapy containing a SSRI inhibitor and a COX-2 inhibitor can then be compared to the aggregation curves of subjects receiving a control treatment in order to determine the efficacy of said combination therapy.

Washed Platelets Flow Cytometry

[0183] Venous blood (8 ml) is collected in a plastic tube containing 2 ml of acid-citrate-dextrose (ACD) (7.3 g citric acid, 22.0 g sodium citrate x 2H₂O and 24.5 glucose in 1000 ml distilled water) and mixed well. The blood-ACD mixture is centrifuged at 1000 r.p.m. for 10 minutes at room temperature. The upper 2/3 of the platelet-rich plasma (PRP) is then collected and adjusted to pH=6.5 by adding ACD. The PRP is then centrifuged at 3000 r.p.m. for 10 minutes. The supernatant is removed and the platelet pellet is gently resuspended in 4 cc of the washing buffer (10 mM Tris/HCl, 0.15 M NaCl, 20 mM EDTA, pH=7.4). Platelets are washed in the washing buffer, and in TBS (10 mM Tris, 0.15 M NaCl, pH=7.4). All cells are then divided into the appropriate number of tubes. By way of example, if 9 different surface markers are evaluated, as described herein, then the cells should be divided into ten tubes, such that nine tubes containing washed platelets are incubated with 5 μ l fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC)-conjugated antibodies in the dark at +4°C for 30 minutes, and one tube remains unstained and serves as a negative control. Surface antigen expression is measured with monoclonal murine anti-human antibodies, such as CD9 (p24); CD41a (IIb/IIIa, aIIbb3); CD42b (Ib); CD61(IIIa) (DAKO Corporation, Carpinteria, Calif.); CD49b (VLA-2, or a2b1); CD62p (P-selectin); CD31 (PECAM-1); CD 41b (IIb); and CD51/CD61 (vitronectin receptor, avb3) (PharMingen, San Diego Calif.), as the expression of these antigens on the cells is associated with platelet activation. After incubation, the cells are washed with TBS and resuspended in 0.25 ml of 1% paraformaldehyde. Samples are stored in the refrigerator at +4°C, and analyzed on a Becton Dickinson FACScan flow cytometer with laser output of 15 mw, excitation at 488 nm, and emission detection at 530+-30 nm. The data can be collected and stored in list mode, and then analyzed using CELLQuest® software. FACS procedures are described in detail in, e.g., Gurbel, P. A. et al., *J Amer Coll Cardiol* 31: 1466-1473 (1998); Serebruany, V. L. et al., *Am Heart J* 136: 398-405 (1998); Gurbel, P. A. et al., *Coron Artery Dis* 9: 451-456 (1998) and Serebruany, V. L. et al., *Arterioscl Thromb Vasc Biol* 19: 153-158 (1999).

[0184] The antibody staining of platelets isolated from subjects receiving a combination therapy can then be compared to the staining of platelets isolated from subjects receiving a control treatment in order to determine the effect of the combination therapy on platelets.

Whole Blood Flow Cytometry

[0185] Four cc of blood is collected in a tube, containing 2 cc of acid-citrate-dextrose (ACD, see previous example) and mixed well. The buffer, TBS (10 mM Tris, 0.15 M NaCl, pH 7.4) and the following fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) conjugated monoclonal antibodies (PharMingen, San Diego, Calif., USA, and DAKO, Calif., USA) are removed from a refrigerator and allowed to warm at room temperature (RT) prior to their use. The non-limiting examples of antibodies that can be used include CD41 (IIb/IIIa), CD31 (PECAM-1), CD62p (P-selectin), and CD51/61 (Vitronectin receptor). For each subject, six amber tubes (1.25 ml) are one Eppendorf tube (1.5 ml) are obtained and marked appropriately. 450 μ l of TBS buffer is pipetted to the labeled Eppendorf tube. A patient's whole blood tube is inverted gently twice to mix, and 50 μ l of whole blood is pipetted to the appropriately labeled Eppendorf tube. The Eppendorf tube is capped and the diluted whole blood is mixed by inverting the Eppendorf tube gently two times, followed by pipetting 50 μ l of diluted whole blood to each amber tube. 5 μ l of appropriate antibody is pipetted to the bottom of the corresponding amber tube. The tubes are covered with aluminum foil and incubated at 4°C for 30 minutes. After incubation, 400 μ l of 2% buffered paraformaldehyde is added. The amber tubes are closed with a lid tightly and stored in a refrigerator at 4°C until the flow cytometric analysis. The samples are analyzed on a Becton Dickinson FACScan flow cytometer. These data are collected in list mode files and then analyzed. As mentioned in (B.), the antibody staining of platelets isolated from subjects receiving a combination therapy can then be compared to the staining of platelets isolated from subjects receiving a control treatment.

ELISA

[0186] Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA) are used according to standard techniques and as described herein. Eicosanoid metabolites may be used to determine platelet aggregation. The metabolites are analyzed due to the fact that eicosanoids have a short half-life under physiological conditions. Thromboxane B2 (TXB₂), the stable breakdown product of thromboxane A₂ and 6keto-PGF₁ alpha, the stable degradation product of prostacyclin may be tested. Thromboxane B2 is a stable hydrolysis product of TXA₂ and is produced following platelet aggregation induced by a variety of agents, such as thrombin and collagen. 6keto-prostaglandin F₁ alpha is a stable hydrolyzed product of unstable PGI₂ (prostacyclin). Prostacyclin inhibits platelet aggregation and induces vasodilation. Thus,

quantitation of prostacyclin production can be made by determining the level of 6keto-PGF₁. The metabolites may be measured in the platelet poor plasma (PPP), which is kept at -4°C. Also, plasma samples may also be extracted with ethanol and then stored at -80° C before final prostaglandin determination, using, e.g., TiterZymes® enzyme immunoassays according to standard techniques (PerSeptive Diagnostics, Inc., Cambridge, Mass., USA). ELISA kits for measuring TXB₂ and 6keto-PGF₁ are also commercially available.

[0187] The amounts of TXB₂ and 6keto-PGF₁ in plasma of subjects receiving a combination therapy and subjects receiving a control therapy can be compared to determine the efficacy of the combination treatment.

Closure Time Measured with the Dade Behring Platelet Function Analyzer, PFA-100®

[0188] PFA-100® can be used as an *in vitro* system for the detection of platelet dysfunction. It provides a quantitative measure of platelet function in anticoagulated whole blood. The system comprises a microprocessor-controlled instrument and a disposable test cartridge containing a biologically active membrane. The instrument aspirates a blood sample under constant vacuum from the sample reservoir through a capillary and a microscopic aperture cut into the membrane. The membrane is coated with collagen and epinephrine or adenosine 5'-diphosphate. The presence of these biochemical stimuli, and the high shear rates generated under the standardized flow conditions, result in platelet attachment, activation, and aggregation, slowly building a stable platelet plug at the aperture. The time required to obtain full occlusion of the aperture is reported as the "closure time," which normally ranges from one to three minutes.

[0189] The membrane in the PFA-100® test cartridge serves as a support matrix for the biological components and allows placement of the aperture. The membrane is a standard nitrocellulose filtration membrane with an average pore size of 0.45 µm. The blood entry side of the membrane was coated with 2 µg of fibrillar Type I equine tendon collagen and 10 µg of epinephrine bitartrate or 50 µg of adenosine 5'-diphosphate (ADP). These agents provide controlled stimulation to the platelets as the blood sample passes through the aperture. The collagen surface also served as a well-defined matrix for platelet deposition and attachment.

[0190] The principle of the PFA-100® test is very similar to that described by Kratzer and Born (Kratzer, et al., *Haemostasis* 15: 357-362 (1985)). The test utilizes whole blood samples collected in 3.8% of 3.2% sodium citrate anticoagulant. The blood sample is

aspirated through the capillary into the cup where it comes in contact with the coated membrane, and then passes through the aperture. In response to the stimulation by collagen and epinephrine or ADP present in the coating, and the shear stresses at the aperture, platelets adhere and aggregate on the collagen surface starting at the area surrounding the aperture. During the course of the measurement, a stable platelet plug forms that ultimately occludes the aperture. The time required to obtain full occlusion of the aperture is defined as the "closure time" and is indicative of the platelet function in the sample. Accordingly, "closure times" can be compared between subjects receiving a combination therapy and the ones receiving a control therapy in order to evaluate the efficacy of the combination treatment.

[0191] It should be noted that all of the above-mentioned procedures can be modified for a particular study, depending on factors such as a drug combination used, length of the study, subjects that are selected, etc. Such modifications can be designed by a skilled artisan without undue experimentation.